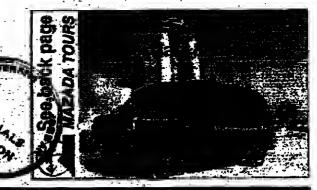
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THE JERUSALEM POSITIONS



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January 1992 - November 1996

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 1997 ● TEVET 29, 5757 ● 29 SHAABAN, 1417

NIS 4.50 (Eilat NIS 3.80)

In today's Business Supplement

- ★ The Tel Aviv bull market
- ★ Measuring healthcare costs
- ★ Yehuda Harel's "new kibbutz"

Money

Arafat 'furious' at Netanyahu delaying bid

DAVID MAKOVSKY

PALESTINIAN Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat was said to be "furious" yesterday at Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's proposal of a spring 1999 date for the last IDF pullback in the West Bank.

Yesterday's negotiating sessions failed once again to end in agreement on a US compromise formula on pullbacks, the conclusion of which is likely to determine whether another summit will take place between the two leaders, officials say.

Speaking briefly to reporters in Gaza last night, the Palestinian spokesman for the talks, Marwan Kanafani, said, "The meeting was extremely teose. The statements that were made today destroyed all hopes that we could reach an agreement" [that would enable a meeting between Arafat and Netanyahu].

US special Middle East peace coordinator Dennis Ross held several hours of extensive discussions last night with Arafat. Jerusalem was awaiting word about the success of those talks to see whether there was sufficient reason to warrant another snap meeting hetween the two leaders.

On Monday night US-Israeli talks continued until 4 a.m.

Officials indicate that the US has presented a compromise date to break the current impasse on when Israel will make the third pullback in the territories. The Palestinians want that pullback, which they believe will give them the bulk of the West Bank, by September.

Netanyahu adviser David Barllian has said that Israel wanted the third pullback to occur by spring 1999, which would he timed to coincide with the Oslo deadline for completing talks on the final disposition of the terri-

"When the final status talks are set to end we will implement the last redeployment because we will then know in which areas there will be a Palestinian Authority." Bar-Illan said.

Palestinian negotiator Hassan Asfour rejected the idea. "This is an irresponsible proposal...the agreement specifically states that the last stage of further redeployments from the West Bank be completed by September 7,

1997, "Asfour told Reuters.
It remains unclear whether the
US proposal would be midway
between the two dates – summer
1998 – or would be closer to the
date preferred by one of the

Meanwhile, senior Egyptian Foreign Ministry official Nabil Fahmy left Gaza on Monday, after almost a week's stay. Noting that Fahmy's stay has coincided with a harder position by Arafat, Israelis have insisted that Fahmy had been urging Arafat to take a tough line. Egyptian Foreign Minister Amt Moussa, however, has rejected this allegation.

Cabinet to consider economic reforms

THE cabinet is to consider major structural reforms to the economy today. Among the sectors facing changes are public transportation. communications, water, housing and agriculture.

Full report, Page 8





Rescue workers prepare to evacuate one of the victims of yesterday's Mahane Yehnda crash.

One dead, 6 hurt as Arab youth crashes car into Jerusalem store

JON IMMANUEL

A 15-year-old porter in the Mahane Yehuda market took his employer's car from an alley off Jaffa Road, careened across the main road and crashed into a were pinned between

ket's entrance, injuring seven people, one fatally.

Police said they believe it was an accident and not a terrorist attack.

Yosef Cohen, 72, a beggar who came up by bus every day from Beersheba, was sitting on a chair

outside the shop and was fatally

burekas bakery next to the mar-

injured. The chair was flattened. a p

Four customers inside the shop were pinned between the car and the counter. Eli Yaron, behind the counter, saw the car coming at him, leapt aside and was saved. Another person was hit just before the crash.

the crash.

Rachel Hanania, who runs a religious artifacts shop in the alley where the car was parked, said, "The car came shooting past. It hit

a poor man on the crosswalk and then the car was hit by another coming up Jaffa road. That is why he did not drive straight into the market. I understood immediately this was a suicide attack. I ran inside and locked the door."

The youth, who cannot be identified because he is a minor, lives in Kalandia refugee camp. His father, who works as a laborer in Jerusalem, has no security record.

Jamal Saed, a resident of the camp, said the family "is not political as far as we know and [the boy] is too young to be political."

Jerusalem Police Commander Arye Amit said last night that "We are checking in both directions but leaning towards an accident." He said the youth "did not know the difference between the gas and the brake pedal."

There were no brake marks on

the road.
(Continued on Page 9)

Swiss seek 'to make amends'

BATSHEVA TSUR and news agencies

SWITZERLAND made certain attempts yesterday to placate Israel following a breakdown in relations with Jewish organizations over the issue of Holocaust victims' accounts in Swiss banks. But the Swiss cabinet refused to apologize for remarks made by the outgoing president that Jewish calls for a compensation fund

were "extertion and blackmail."

Swiss Foreign Minister Flavio
Cotti telephoned Foreign Minister
David Levy, saying that he wanted
to make amends for the remarks
made by former president JeanPascal Delamuraz, Foreign
Ministry sources said in
Jerusalem.

Cotti informed Levy that he planned to hold a press conference to explain that there had been "a misinderstanding." He said that he would circulate two documents—one on the establishment of a Holocaust memorial fund and the other, a "correction" to Delamuraz's remarks.

Coni stressed that Switzerland was interested in maintaining its good relations with Israel and extended an invitation to Levy to visit Bern.

During the cooversation, Levy told Cotti that the remarks had been seen in Israel as "a slap in the face to the Jewish people and the state of Israel," a Levy aide said.

Farlier vectoriay Swiss

Earlier yesterday, Swiss Ambassador Pietre Monod met with Jewish Agency Chairman Avraham Burg at the ambassador's request. Monod reportedly told Burg about the current discussions and contacts within the Swiss establishment over Delamuraz's remarks:

The Jewish organizations have no demands or requests but they "cannot, from a personal point of view, sit around the table with persons who have refrained from criticizing Delamuraz's remarks." Burg explained From the moral point of view, Burg said, it was oot possible to sit down with persons who had insulted the memory of the six million.

The moves came on the heels of reports from Zurich that Swiss bank share transfers on the stock marker had declined Monday after the Jewish organizations threatened a boycout unless the Swiss paid restitution for the alleged wartime profiteering.

But despite the diplomatic moves and expectations in Jerusalem, Cotti merely said in his press conference that his government wanted to use the dormant bank accounts to create a Holocaust memorial fund, Reuters

reported.
The federal council,
Switzerland's eahinet, also
ignored the demands that it rebuke
Delamuraz – who has since
become economics minister – for

his remarks.

"There was no apology by the federal council because the remarks were misunderstood and led to excessive reactions," the government spokesman, Achille Casanova, told reporters after the seven ministers conferred by phone for 90 minutes.

In its statement, the cabinet also criticized the threats by Jewish groups to call a boycott of Swiss banks and said they endangered joint efforts to track the Jewish (Continued on Page 9)

Flu not fooled by high temperatures

JUDY SIEGEL

THE clusive, annoying and sometimes deadly flu virus functions according to the calendar, not the thermometer. Influenza has a field day in the winter months, even when the temperatures — as they have been for weeks — are more like those in May than January.

Dr. Amos Yinnon, a senior infectious disease expert at Jerusalem's Shaare Zedek Hospital, says scientists have not yet discovered why the virus spreads in winter without connection to cold weather.

They do know that the microbe, which was described by the 4th century BCE Greek physician Hippocrates, keeps mutating into new strains.

requiring annual vaccinations for those at high risk.

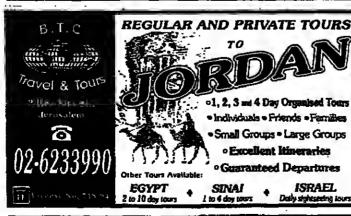
The virus thrives when windows are closed and rooms are oot aired. If somebody with flu sneezes on your sandwich, you don't have to worry about catching it, as it doesn't survive the digestive system.

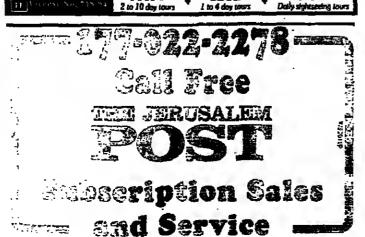
It is transmitted by the aerosol route, from the throat or nose. Scientists can't say how long it survives in the air or on an object. But, if somebody coughs or sneezes onto a computer keyboard, or the keys of an automatic teller, or a phone receiver, or into your face, you should start worrying. Better still, before exposure, get the vaccine — which protects about three-quarters of all persons exposed, says Yinnon. It misses when the actual strain of flu that hits you is a hit different from the ones used as the basis for the current year's vaccine (which is based on cases reported months before) or if the immunization didn't trigger a protective reaction by your immune extense.

tion by your immune system.

Although busy general practitioners sometimes interchangeably use the words "fiu" and a "cold," there are clear differences in symptoms. A cold can mean a cough, runny nose and some fever, but you can go to work in spite of it. Flu is a systemic disease, with a sore throat, shivering, muscle pains, weakness, headache and high fever — and you will be too sick to go to work. Antibiotics won't kill the virus. The symptoms usually peter out in five days.

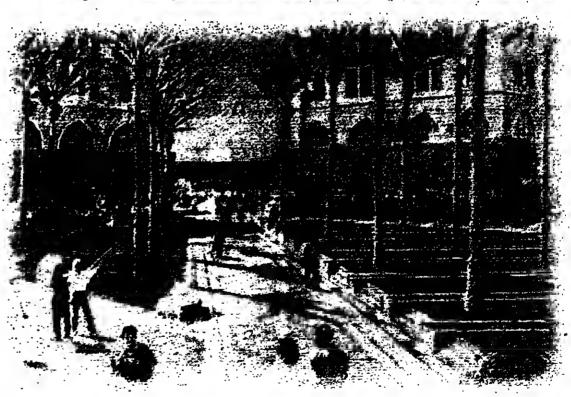
But children or adults with a chronic illness or weak immune system, and all those over 65, should be vaccinated, as they are at risk for complications, says Yinnon.





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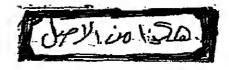
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Peace Now protests at tomb of Baruch Goldstein

27 injured in traffic accidents

NINETEEN people were injured in an accident on the Hebron bypass

road yesterday, bringing the total number of people injured on the

nation's roads yesterday, including those injured in the Mahane Yehuda

An eight-year-old boy from Ashdod also was seriously injured yester-

day when he ran into Scient Herzi in Ashdod and was hit by a car. He was taken to Sheba Hospital in Tel Hashomer. Itim

In deep sorrow we announce the passing of our

beloved stepmother and aunt EMMIE VAN ESSEN-COHEN 5"

formerly of Veenendaal, Holland

The funeral will take place, God willing, today,

Wednesday, January 8, 1997 (Tevet 29, 5757),

at 11:30 a.m.

It will proceed from the Shamgar funeral parlor,

to the Mt. of Olives.

With great sorrow we announce that

LESLIE SKLAN 5"7

passed away on Monday, January 6, 1997

deeply mourned by the family

TELAVIV UNIVERSITY

extends sincere condolences to

Member of the Board of Governors

Mr. Michel Cukierman

and Family

on the passing of his father

RAPHAEL CUKIERMAN

a devoted friend of the University

our dear brother

PEACE Now held a protest vigil at Baruch Goldstein's grave in Kiryat Arba yesterday, calling for the removal of the tomb to a more inconspicuous site inside the Green

"This site has been turned into a holy site," said Peace Now political secretary Mossy Raz. "Seven days after Noam Friedman's attack, we thought this was a good time to come here and point out that this site is leading others to follow in Goldstein's path."

Goldstein's grave is located in the Meir Kahane Park at the entrance to Kiryat Arba, It is set in the center of a tile floor, and there are bookcases at the site, as well as a faucet for ritual hand washing. The tombstone on the grave refers to Goldstein as a

"martyr."
Goldstein killed 29 people and wounded 125 in the Machpela Cave in Hebron three years ago,

Raz said Peace now is representing "most of the people in the country" who want the grave moved, and not turned into a pilgrimage site for

the extreme right wing. When some 20 Peace Now activists came to the site, they were told by a policeman waiting for them that they did not have a permit for a demonstration. Since no permit is the demonstrators.

accident (see story page 1), to 27.

needed for a protest vigil of nine people or less, seven of the activists - carrying a flag - went to the grave and unfurled signs that read "Shame," and "Thou shall not mur-

The group dispersed about 30 minutes after it arrived. Police detained one man who allegedly cursed the demonstrators.

Tzuri Popovitch, spokesman for the Kiryat Arba Local Council, called the vigil a "provocation. Popovitch said that since the IDF ordered that Goldstein be buried in Kiryat Arba, rather than in Hebron where his family requested, the question of moving the grave must go through the IDF. Popovitch said that the local council is willing to talk about moving the grave, but it all must be done with the consent of Goldstein's family.

Last month the Entire Generation Seeks Peace organization received a permit to demonstrate at the site. after turning to the High Court of Justice. Their demonstration, however, was canceled because it was scheduled at a time when the Hebron redeployment seemed imminent, and the IDF was concerned about a confrontation between Kiryat Arba residents and

Families: Katz

Cohen

Zamin

Emanuel

Schindler



vesterday downplayed the reported increased security around the defense minister, but admitted that extra precautions have been taken in light of threats from radical right-wing ele-

"I'm not saying the General Security Service has put any more bodyguards on him or anything, but they have increased the awareness around him and taken steps to improve his protection," said one source.

They added that there have not been any concrete threats on Mordechai such as letters or telephone calls.

Lately, and on GSS orders, Mordechai has donned a bullet-proof vest or flak vest which looks like a windbreaker during his travels in the

His residence in the Jerusalem area has been dramatically enhanced with dozens of spot lights

Noam Friedman shows police how he aimed his gun and fired at Palestinians last week, during a reenactment in Hebron early yes-

surrounding the house and grounds. Mordechai, a decorated war hero and no stranger to the battlefield, has in fact confided to his friends that the increased security has regretfully forced him to curtail his social life.

Mordechai's younger sister. Hasia Ovadia, told Yediot Aharonot yesterday that the family fears for his life. We know that there are lunatics threatening

him, and this is very painful for us," she said. "A crazed person might rise up at any moment." From the day they appointed Yitzhak defense

minister, our hearts have been gripped with fear. In our worst nightmare we never dreamed that things would reach such a low state of threats minst my brother's life,"

The increased security comes after the GSS assessed that a right-wing Jewish radical may try to harm Mordechai, Yedior said.

Mordechai is considered a moderate in Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's government. He recently said he wouldn't risk setting the Middle East ablaze "for a few dilapidated buildings in

Furthermore, posters have appeared on the Jerusalem-Tel Aviv highway saying: "Mordechai will laugh (yitzhak) and the nation is crying." No group has yet taken responsibility for the posters. Mordechai's media adviser Avi Benyahu said the defense minister wasn't deterred by all the

"He has never been determed in the plast and won't he deterred today or in the future from any threat and will continue to act to advance the security of Israel and the national defense establishment which is serving the people of Israel within the time, was what kept the framework of the government's policies and 'ple from getting burt. decisions," Benyahu said.

Soldier reenacts Hebron shooting

NOAM Friedman, the IDF soldier who opened fire in the Hebron market last week, reenacted the shooting yesterday, telling police his gun first jammed, but he was able to fix it and carry out the

Channel I carried footage last night of Friedman reenacting the shooting. "When I first raised the gun, it didn't shoot and I put it down, fixed it and then started shooting," he said during the reenactment, which he carried out at about 2 a.m., accompanied by large army. Border Police and police forces.

He was given an M-16 without the firing pin by police, and he began describing what happened that night. According to Friedman, he came to the site of the shooting twice, but his gun jammed when he initially tried to open fire near Kikar Gross. "It jammed, so I pulled it down and continued towards Beit Romano," he said. He walked down Shuhada Street towards Beit Romano and tried to get the weapon working again, then returned to Kikar Gross. "I returned and faced the market, put the gun on automatic and pressed

the trigger," he explained.

He said he did not remember anything after that. "I heard shots and tried to change magazines, but the soldier was on me already," he

Asked why be opened fire, he repeated his earlier claim that "I wanted to stop the agreement on the withdrawal from Hebron."

Friedman reportedly cooperated with police during the reenactment, but muttered phrases like "Hebron, the city of the Patriarchs" and "Hebron forever" as he did so. A police official who followed the reenactment said it "confirmed things that were said during Friedman's earlier interrogation." He said it proved Friedman did not know how to use his weapon, which, besides the action of the soldiers on duty at the time, was what kept more peo-

Barak responds to attacks by Beilin, Ramon

LABOR leadership candidate Ehud Barak said yesterday his rival MK Yossi Beilin's artacks on him had provided weapons for the Likud's

Barak also said he was open to cooperation with MK Haim Ramon, who is considered a more bitter rival, although he is probably not running

At Beilin's leadership campaign kickoff Monday, he said, in reference to Barak and himself, "this is not a choice between a macho and a

Barak responded vesterday by

saying, "I don't think I'm a macho and it is clear to anyone who knows Beilin that he is no nerd. What he

to provide the Likud with weapons for its future campaigns against us." Beilin had scoffed at Barak's angling toward the political center, claiming there is no such thing, because the elusive "center" disap-

be is the one continuing in the late Yitzhak Rabin's way. "Between my consistent way and some wondrous way in which Beilin can bridge between the settlements and the Kfar Yarok Circle [Beilin's dovish group). I prefer the clear, straight highroad which is the continuation

of Labor's way." Speaking about the rivalry with Ramon, Barak said "the doors and arms are open in him. Ramon is an asset to Labor and I have no problem whatsoever working with anyone

who doesn't spoil things." Ramon yesterday denied sugges-tions that he would do anything to sabotage Barak's way to the prime minister's seat, noting that should Barak be elected party leader he will "We don't have bitter past emotional

should join him, Ramon, in pushing for open primaries.

Hizbullah intensifies mortar attacks

DAVID RUDGE

HEAVY fighting was reported in the security zone yesterday for the sixth straight day as the recent escalation in hostilities continued.

Hizbullah gunmen fixed dozens of mortar rounds at IDF and South Lebanese Army positions and forces in the field in the northeastern sector

800 .

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123

There were no IDF or SLA casualties in the bombardments, which began in the early morning and prompted exchanges that continued

sporadically until the afternoon. Reports from the region said that residential areas in the Ishiyeh and Rehan areas also came under fire from the Hizbullah mortars during

the exchanges. There were no reports of any civilian casualties, although the shooting by Hizbullah at villages could give Israel cause to lodge a further com-plaint with the Grapes of Wrath

monitoring committee. The five nation committee is itself continuing discussions that began on Sunday into complaints lodged by Israel and Lebanon over alleged breaches, in several incidents in the past three weeks, of the understandings that ended cross-border fighting during Operation Grapes of Wrath

last April. The committee, composed of representatives from America, France, Israel, Syria and Lebanon, is expect-ed to complete its deliberations in

the next few days. A senior Hizbullah official, Hussein Khalil, was quoted in Lebanese newspapers yesterday as saying that the organization was still committed to the April understand

He warned of dire consequences, however, if Israel tried to change the rules of the game.

The existence of the committee

and especially its make up has so far prevented fighting in the security zone from spreading across the border, although Hizbullah best

have no problem working with him. charges like Rabin and Peres had.

We have a legitimate argument between us and my criticism of Ehad is not personal. Ramon added that if Barak sees himself as Rabin's successor, be

NEWS IN BRIEF

Two charged with smuggling heroin

Two Kafr Yarka men were charged in Haifa District Court yesterday with smuggling nearly a kilo of heroin across the Lebanese border. The state charged that the two, Mansur Abu Tarif, 23, and Yussef Gabish, 23, threw a sack of money over the border fence to a Lebanese man, who in exchange tossed two packages of drugs over to them. The state has asked for their repeated well the end of bind. for their remand until the end of trial.

US, Israel mark 50 years of air links .

US Ambassador Martin Indyk last night took a break from the Hebron negotiations to host a reception at his home marking 50 years of air travel between Israel and the United States. At the TWA-sponsored reception, guests were shown a copy of The Palestine Post for January 8, 1947 which carried a front-page news story headlined "Skymaster links New York with Lydda airport." TWA sent Joseph R. Vilman, vice president sales and service international, to Israel to mark the occasion alongside its Israel's branch director David Rudner.

Jerusalem Post Staff

Educational TV may ax 'Parpar Nehmad'

After the threats to the country's satire shows, another popular program is facing the axe. Parpar Nehmad ("Nice Butterfly") - a clean, educational show for young children - is under threat for lack of funds.

MK Tamar Gozansky (Hadash), who chairs the Knesset subcommittee on early childhood, has complained that Educational Television wants to take the program off after 16 years citing cuts in the budget it receives from the Educational Ministry. The program educates towards love, tolerance and friendship and is an entirely Israeli-made product."
Gozansky said. "Taking it off the screens will leave the children exposed

Jerusalem journalists elect leadership

only to foreign programs filled with violence."

A new leadership was elected for the Jerusalem Journalists Association yesterday. Elisha Spiegelman of Channel 1 was chosen chairman. Print journalists will be represented by Esther Hecht and Ori Lewis from The Jerusalem Post, Amnon Kapeliuk and Roni Shaked of Yediot Aharonot, and Zvi Lavi of Globes. Television representatives are Moshe Friedman, Shmuel Baram, Eli Ribenbach, and Avi Cohen; radio members are Ya'acov Katzav, Menahem Friedman, Gad Ben-Yitzhak Shabtai Bibi and Efrat Ben-Horin. Jerusalem Post Staff

MICHAL YUDELMAN

future election campaigns against

for Labor's leadership.

said will cause damage. We should weigh our words carefully before speaking and we would do better not

pears on election day and votes for

Barak emphasized in response that

Cohen and Moshe Shahal propose closed primaries, restricted to party

members who register until 60 days

before the showdown. MKs Nissim

Zvilli and Uzi Baram's propose

"semi-open" primaries, enabling

anyone who declares he or she is not

a member in any other party and

pays a voting fee up to 30 days

before the elections, to vote, Ramon

Showdown expected at today's Labor convention

MICHAL YUDELMAN

DRAMATIC confrontation hetween MKs Haim Ramon and Ehud Barak is expected today at Labor's convention, which is to determine whether to hold open or closed primaries for the party's lead-

Ramon, who said he will announce after the convention at Tel Aviv's Cinerama hall if he intends m run for Labor's leadership, is expected to attack Barak in a stormy address, in an attempt to persuade convention delegates to hold open primaries. However, party sources estimate the convention will opt for closed primaries - for party members only - and therefore it is assumed that Ramon will announce his support for leadership candidate MK Yossi Beilin after the conven-

The convention will open with a political statement by Labor Chairman Shimon Peres. The delegates will then be asked to choose

one out of three proposals. MKs Ephraim Saeh. Ra'anan

and Beilin propose open primaries in which anyone who pays voting dues can take part until election day The convention will also determine whether the new party leader will be elected by 40% of the votes, as is the custom today in the party, or by 50% plus one vote, as pro-posed by Sneh.

Four Labor MKs picked up applications for contending in the party's leadership showdown yesterday. These included Barak, Beilin and Sneh, who have already announced their candidacy, and MK Shlomo Ben-Ami, who is apparently considering running as well.

Mideast not expected to be priority in new Senate

HILLEL KUTTLER

WHEN Madeleine Albright goes before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee this morning the Middle East will be low on the list of members' concerns.

Instead, the secretary of statedesignate is bound to face questions on a vast array of global issues - not all of them based over-

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

THE WEEKLY MEETING of the English-speaking Jerusalem Rotary Club will take place tonight at 7.30 pm at the Laromme Hotel. Gala Dinner.

YOSI PEKING Glatt Kosher Chinese Restaurants ◆ JERUSALEM ◆ TEL AVIV ◆ ASHDOD

Now open! FASHIONABLE

YOSEF TZABAN 5" veteran builder of Jerusalem

The funeral will take place today, Wednesday, January 8, 1997 (29 Tevet 5757) at 2 p.m., leaving from the Sanhedria Funeral Home for the Givat Shaul Cemetery.

With deep sorrow we announce the passing of our beloved

A bus will be available.

Mourned by his: Son, Yair and Shulamit Tzaban and family Daughter, Bruria and Simi Shiloni and family Son, Amnon and Mali Tzaban and family

Shiva at the home of Bruna and Simi Shiloni, 6 Rehov Bodenheimer, Kiryat Hayovel, Jerusalem, Tel. 02-642-1746.

Liver transplant patient gives birth

JUDY SIEGEL

A WOMAN who underwent a liver transplant four years ago has given birth to a healthy baby girl, following a pregnancy closely supervised by doctors at the Rabin Medical Center-Beilinson Campus's new clinic for liver disease

Ella Simantov, who had to have an abortion when she developed a serious liver disease during her first pregnancy, is only the third Israeli

liver recipient to have given birth.
The woman told Dr. Ran Tur-Kaspa, head of the institute for liver diseases, that she wanted to have a baby. After consulting with Dr. Moshe Hod, head of the hospital's high-risk pregnancy unit, Tur-Kaspa encouraged her to try.

.The doctors closely supervised her liver function, and the pregnancy proceeded without any undue problems. She was able to continue taking anti-rejection drugs without affecting the fetus.

In the 38th week, she underwent a cesarean section and delivered

THE SAME THE RESERVE TO SERVE THE PARTY OF THE SAME



Rabbi Yitzhak Kaduri (right) attaches the mezuza to a new Kupat Holim Clalit clinic in the capital's Ramat Shlomo neighborhood, assisted by Class director-general Avigdor Kaplan.

MKs fight to move child's grave closer to parents' home

SEVERAL MKs have launched a fight to have an eight-year-old boy who died in a car crash buried closer to his family's home, after the Arad rabbinate refused to do so because of alleged questions over his Jewishness.

Alexander Dubrovitzky, the Israeli-born son of immigrants from the former Soviet Union, was buried in Beersheba after dying in the crash on Saturday. His family lives in Arad, but the local rabbinate refused to bury him there, saying there are doubts that his mother, who immigrated here 16 years ago, is Jewish. Several MKs have joined the fight

co move his grave to a site where his family, which includes a soldier. can visit more easily. Deputy Religious Affairs Minister Yigal Bibi (National Religious Party) has promised to look into the issue.

Yisrael Ba'aliya faction chairman Roman Bronfman had asked Bibi to intervene and informed the family of his promise

MK Anar Maor (Meretz) registered a protest with the ministry when the affair was first published, asking "How can it be that the father and eldest son are fit to serve

in the IDF but a young child who is killed is placed beyond the fence?"
Meretz leader Yossi Sand said representatives of the Religious Affairs Ministry and the Chief Rabbinate had promised the Immigration and Absorption Committee in the past that there would be no more problems of burial of new immigrants because of doubts of their Judaism.

Dedi Zucker (Meretz) said he would file a High Court petition against the ministry for not abiding by the new law which demands that a section of all cemeteries be set aside for alternative civil burials.

Baby revived after drinking asthma medicine

A two-year-old boy who drank 70 cc. of asthma medication was discharged from Laniado Hospital yester-

Tomer Bichachi, who lives in Netanya, is asthmatic and treated with Ventolin. His mother left the house for a short time, leaving the toddler with his eight-year-old sister. When the mother returned, she

found him apathetic; the bottle of Ventolin was empty next to him. She rushed him to the Netanya hospital, where he was found to have a rapid and irregular heartbeat. After consulting with the National Poison Control Center in Haifa, they treated him with active carbon to hind with the drug, which is manufactured by Glaxo.

Assaf Harofeh technique detects Down Syndrome

JUDY SIEGEL

ASSAF Harofeh Hospital is offering a new, noninvasive method to identify fetuses with Down Syndrome in women under 35. The method was developed in Britain and using a conventional ultrasound machine and

computer program, it reputedly identifies 80% of all cases.

The technique, developed by Prof. Kyprus Nicolaides of London, examines muchal translucency (the translucence of tissue at the nape of the neck) and the distance from a certain tissue in the neck to another. If the findings are beyond the normal range (translocency of more than three millimeters), the pregnant woman is sent for an invasive test that is 100% accurate: by amniocentesis or chorionic villae sampling.

However, these invasive tests can in a small percentage of cases cause a miscarriage, and are very expensive, so they are not used on women

Until now, women under 35 (who have a considerably lower risk of having a baby with Down Syndrome), are offered a blood test for alphafeto-protein (which picks up 60% of cases); if the level indicates a. problem, such a woman would be offered the invasive technique as well. According to Dr. Arie Herman, who heads the nochal translucency program at the Triffin hospital, the harmless ultrasound scan is conducted abdominally or vaginally in the 11th to 14th week of pregnancy. So far, gynecologists in Britain and elsewhere have conducted nearly 100,000 tests, and it picked up Down Syndrome (confirmed at birth or

by invasive tests during pregnancy) in eight out of 10 cases.

Herman notes that the technique will not replace conventional techniques, but be added to the arsenal of existing tests. It is being offered free to qualified women during the morning shift as part of an interna-tional survey. If the demand becomes so great that scans need to be per-formed during the afternoon shift, the hospital will ask the Health Ministry to find a funding source.

Religious Affairs panel appoints new heads to TA burial society

EVELYN GORDON

THE Religious Affairs Ministry has appointed a managing director and a deputy managing director for the Tel Aviv Hevra Kadisha (burial society). effective immediately, a ministry representative told the Knesset State Control Committee yesterday.

However, the society's workers are still planning to go on strike today, after the workers' committee walked out of a meeting with the Religious Affairs Ministry.

According to the works' commitsee, the strike was called to protest the appointment of MK Rafael Pinhasi (Shas) to an emergency committee overseeing reform of the organization. Pinhasi, who is facing an indictment on corruption charges, is not a fit person to eliminate corruption from the organization, they

However, the Religious Affairs Ministry charges that the real reason for the strike is the emergency commines's decision to hire temporary

The new managing director and his deputy began work yesterday, the ministry said, and within 14 days a completely new management will be in place. According to ministry spokesman Yair Wolf, the appointments were unrelated to the strike;

but rather stemmed from the urgent need to effect major reforms in the

A committee also will be set up to investigate the workers' salaries,

Excessive salaries are one of the main reasons the organization racked up a NIS 328 million deficit in the first half of the year. According to a recent petition to the High Court of Justice by MKs Avraham Poraz (Meretz) and Yona Yahav (Labor), the average wage paid by the society was some NIS 26,000 a month as of March 1995. In 1993, the chairman's salary cost the society NIS 1.3 million a year, a half-time comptroller cost NIS 413,000 for a year, an ordinary teller cost NIS 384,000, a driver cost NIS 270,000 and a messenger cost NIS 212,000, the petition said. The ministry's action will presumably lead to the petition being withdrawn, since its goal was to force the appointment

of a manager. State Control Committee chairman Ran Cohen (Meretz) said it was critical to impose order on the orgamization, which performs about a third of the country's burials and receives some NIS 40m. a year from

Beduin protest court's eviction order

yesterday protested a court order that they must leave their tent camps near Ma'aleh Adumim.

The 50 demonstrators, including about a dozen children, stood along side the scale resource menway. An IDF officer said yesterday that They held up signs reading "The for now, the labalin would not be world should see the plight of the removed by force. "We hope they world should see the plight of the removed by force." We hope they labalin and "The court decision is will go there in good will "said Col Jahalin"

Border Police surrounded the protesters to keep them off the high-

August, the Supreme Court in Austria Jahalin must leave the ruled where they have been grazing. area was for several decades. The he said,

DOZENS of Beduin from the court said each family should been Jahalin tribe of about 45 families offered a plot near Abu Dis on the

Several members of the tribe rejected the offer, saying the plots they were being offered were close to a garbege dump.

However, Israeli Arab MK Taleb

a-Sanaa, whose ancestors are Bechin and who joined yesterday's protest, said Israel had no right to

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Explosions break tenuous peace in Peru siege

TWO explosions punctuated the stalemate in Peru's hostage crisis yesterday, shattering an edgy peace at the besieged Japanese ambassador's residence where Marxist terrorists hold 74 cap-

As the deadlocked crisis entered its third week, two loud booms - assumed to be gunshots rang out shortly before dawn, immediately followed by silence. Witnesses said they believed two Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement (MRTA) members had slipped out of the building toward cars in the driveway, then fired a warning salvo as they went back inside.

Reuters Television images filmed from a vantage point above the residence showed a man dressed in combat gear and carry**ANDREW CAWTHORNE**

ing an automatic rifle running across the driveway at the front of the compound shortly before the explosions

isaw two of them. They ran back at different times," Reuters cameraman Carlos Valdez said. "I think the guerrillas were trying to get one of the car batteries but they made a noise and decided to abort the operation, firing a couple of shots after they reached the house again."

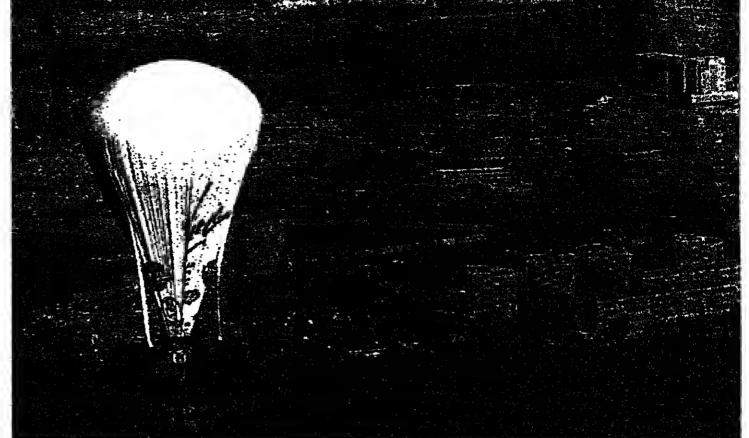
Police surrounding the residence could not confirm that version of events but immediately moved to a state of alert. They speculated the MRTA was trying to make its pres-ence felt. "We think it was a psychological tactic to let us know that

they're there," one policeman said. The explosions were the first heard at the residence since December 26, when a single loud boom briefly shook the area. That explosion was believed to be caused by an animal tripping a mine in the compound.

The explosions underscored the delicately balanced nature of the crisis, which began 21 days ago when about 20 heavily armed MRTA rebels stormed a cocktail

party at the residence and took more than 500 guests hostage.

President Alberto Fujimori, who bas maintained a "no compromise" stand throughout the siege. met late into the night with ministers to discuss options for a peaceful end to the crisis, government sources said. The meeting lasted



MARRAKESH EXPRESS - Richard Branson's Global Challenger flies over Marrakesh in an attempt to travel around the world

Criminal charges sought against Milosevic associates

Serhian President Slobodan Milosevic's closest associates of organizing police beatings of demonstrators, and said yesterday its lawyers would pursue criminal

charges against them. The Serbian capital was quiet as people celebrated Christmas according to the Orthodox calendar. On Monday night. Christmas Eve. more than 200,000 people turned out for a combination protest march and holiday celebration.

The evening was marred by an explosion, likely caused by a grenade, on the grounds of the headquarters of a party allied with Milosevic. No one was hurt in the blast at offices of the Yugoslav United Left, the party of Milosevic's wife, Mirjana Markovic.

Zajedno, the opposition coalition whose name means

Together, has been behind seven weeks of protests since courts and election commissions controlled by the Serbian leader annulled November 17 local elections that the opposition won. The coalition said that its lawyers would seek crimi-

nal charges against Interior Minister Zoran Sokolovic and his assistant Radovan Stojcic. Zajedno claimed that their investigation showed that Sokolovic ordered riot police and people in civilian clothes to club demonstrators at a December 27

The coalition also identified people it said took part in clubbing of the protesters, including some police

Prosecutors and courts are loyal to Milosevic, however, and it seemed unlikely the officials would be tried.

dent Republicans.

by the House itself.

Gingrich wins

another term

WASHINGTON (AP) - House

Speaker Newt Gingrich survived a

wrenching public debate over his ethics to win reelection yesterday

over the opposition of minority Democrats and a handful of dissi-

Gingrich became the first

Republican reelected speaker in 68 years, but his victory is tarnished. He awaits a public airing in the House ethics committee of his use

of tax-exempt organizations for potentially partisan purposes and his inaccurate responses to investi-

gators, and a likely vote of rebuke

brash, too self-confident or too

pushy, I apologize," he told col-

leagues after walking through the

chamber, shaking hands all the way down to the speaker's chair. Mastermind of the Republican

takeover of Congress two years ago, Gingrich received 216 votes

for a second two-year term from

Democratic leader Dick Gephardt

Republican majority.

To the degree to which I was too

encouraged Nazi Germany to restamp looted gold bars to hide their origin. The Swiss National Bank said extensive 1980s research

ZURICH (Reuter) - Switzerland's central bank

yesterday denied allegations in a 1946 US

intelligence document that the Swiss had

by its own staff and outside historians into World War II gold purchases from Nazi Germany had turned up no evidence to back "Various historical studies came to the con-

clusion that the [Nazi] Reichsbank sold remelted ingots to the Swiss National Bank, but nothing ever pointed to an initiative for this remolding by the SNB." spokesman Werner Abegg

The bank was reacting to a US intelligence document released on Mooday in New York by the World Jewish Congress, which has been combing the US National Archives to trace wartime Swiss financial dealings with the Nazis. The one-page May 20, 1946, memoran-

dum prepared by the US Office of Strategic Services, forerunner to the CIA, said Switzerland persuaded the Nazis to stamp gold ingots as made before the start of the war for fear that looted gold could be seized by the allies after the war ended. But the SNB said the document was dubious.

"This document was known to the United States at that time. The fact that the US did not act on this information points to the fact that the source is probably somewhat questionable," Abegg said.

The document, titled "German Gold in Switzerland," began with a statement on sourcing, saying. "The following report from a reliable conservative French source is based on information supplied by a banker who has been involved in many currency transactions with

The Nazis looted millions of dollars worth of gold from the countries they occupied and used

Swiss deny trying to falsify Nazi gold neutral Switzerland or to settle various accounts in neutral nations. The SNB acknowledged in a 1985 report that it bought 1.2 billion Swiss francs (about \$300 million at 1946 exchange rates) worth of gold from Nazi Germany between 1939 and 1945.

Abegg said the SNB supported a probe by nine Swiss and international historians, named by the Berne government last month, into a range of Swiss financial dealings during the war, including the gold purchases.

This document, which is not quite clear on who did what ... just shows that more fundamental and profound research is needed into this whole period," Abegg added.

The SNB Nazi gold purchases are part of a complex of charges levelled at Switzerland by critics headed by the World Jewish Congress, who also say Swiss banks profited cynically from Nazi deposits and sat on accounts left ownerless by Jews killed in the

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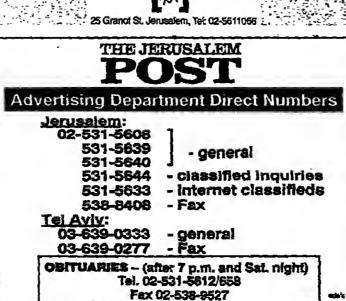
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Former spymaster faces German justice again

DUESSELDORF. Germany (Reuter) - Legendary East German spymaster Markus Wolf went on trial yesterday charged with three cases of Cold War skullduggery which could have come straight from the pages of a

classic espionage thriller. The suave 73-year old, who ran East Berlin's foreign intelligence network for over 30 years, strongly rebutted prosecutors' charges in

his opening statement to the court.
"I declare myself to be not guilty," said Wolf, dressed in a smart dark double-breasted suit. "I did not violate either the constitution of the country I served or its laws." The trial is a last bid by prosecutors to bring to book the elusive figure dubbed "the man without a face" as his western counterparts for decades had little idea what he looked like.

Wolf was convicted of treason in the same Duesseldorf courtroom in 1993. But Germany's highest court overturned the decision in 1995 saying Wolf could not be convicted of spying on what was then a foreign country - West Germany. This time prosecutors have charged Wolf with crimes under East German law - abduction, coercion and causing bodily

"Now the Federal Prosecutor is trying to turn me into an ordinary criminal," Wolf told the court, accusing prosecutors of staging the trial for purely political rea-sons to discredit the East German system and its leaders.

Prosecutors also revived a charge from Wolf's original trial of acting as a secret agent for a foreign power. The charges relate to intelligence work in the 1950s and 1960s.

One of his biggest coups was



ON TRIAL - German Spymaster Markus Wolf. (Renter)

Chancellor Guillaume inside Willy Brandt's office - leading to Brandt's resignation in 1974.

In his statement to the court, Wolf also defended his record in the case of Georg Angerer, an East German citizen who bad been held in custody for half a year in 1959.

Car bomb kills six in Algiers

Jorda

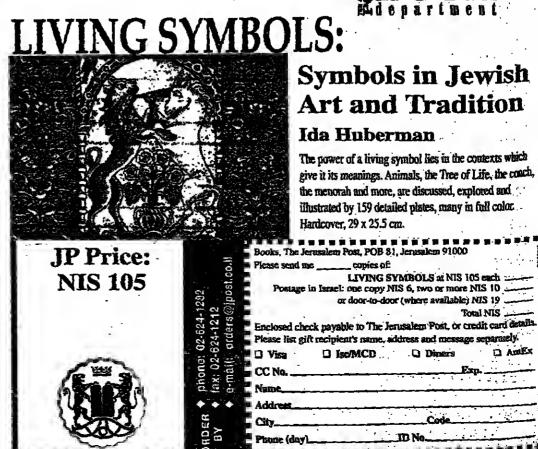
PARIS (Renter) - A buge car bomb exploded in central Algiers yesterday afternoon, killing six people and wounding at least 20, several of whom were in critical condition, security forces said.

An official source told Reuters by telephone that the security forces said the bomb went off near the main university faculty. The authorities have blamed previous bomb attacks on Moslem fundamentalists. The security force statement gave the toll as "provisional."

According to a police source around 40 people were wounded in the blast which rocked the area near the end of Algiers's main shopping street, Rue Didouche Mourad, blowing out windows and setting cars and one bus ablaze. One eyewitness said: "There were an awful lot of wounded. I saw a fireman picking up an arm from the ground."

Another witness, a crying student, said: "Not only have we had the strike [of university teachers) but now we have bombs." Heavily armed security forces, initially police but later soldiers, sealed off the





Targeted Arab Terrorism's double-edged sword newspaper a vigorous voice against terrorism

CALVIN WOODWARD

NFLUENTIAL and relatively evenhanded for the Middle East, Al-Hayat is often the newspaper of choice when extremists publicize claims of responsibility for attacks. Now the messenger has become a target.

The interception of five letter bombs addressed to its Washington office left the Arabic paper firm in its determination to stand against terrorist acts. "Today we can only say that if we were scared, we wouldn't have chosen journalism as a career," the London-based international daily

said last Friday. And editor lihad al-Khazin said "We will not change our editorial policy." The FBI is investigating the five letter bombs and three others that were sent to the federal penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas. Founded in Beirut 50 years ago, Al-Hayat is now owned by Prince Khalid bin Sultan, nephew of Sandi King Fahd, who commanded the Arab forces in the US-led coalition in the Gulf War.

If it rarely causes the Saudi royal family discomfort, it is still considered an enterprising and per-haps authoritative pan-Arab voice in a region where press freedoms are largely controlled, cowed or shackled

"This newspaper does make enemies and it's so highly regard-'ed," said Eric Goldstein, acting executive director of Human Rights Watch-Middle East.

If I were an Arabic speaker and consumer of one daily each morning, it would be Al-Hayat I would want to read."

Even so, he said "it does pull its punches on Saudi Arabia" while offering an unvarnished and often provocative view of the rest of the

One of the paper's two Washington correspondents dis- have taken that line."

ILLIY-one Jordanians beaded

for Kuwait Monday, to visit relatives imprisoned in the

emirate since its liberation from

fraqi occupation in February 1991.

of them of Palestinian extraction,

jailed in Kuwait for collaborating

with Iraq during its seven-month

At least 19 of them are awaiting

Among the Jordanians on the trip organized by the International Committee of the Red Cross are 17

children who will visit relatives

held at the Central Prison in

Kuwait, said Esther Scharfelberger

The trip is the third for

Jordanians arranged by the Red

invasion of the emirate.

of the Red Cross.

Cross since June 1995.

.....

court orders to be expelled.

There are 69 Jordanians, the bulk

covered the first letter bomb

Thursday while opening mail in

Al-Hayat's bureau in the National

Press Building Noticing the

bumpy envelope, he carefully

Three other letter bombs were

found at the bureau and one was

found at the post office, addressed

to the paper. They were disabled

without causing harm.
"I'm not particularly courageous

and I hope it will just blow over,"

The paper's editorials have been consistently critical of radical

Islamic groups and opposed to their violent activities, especially in Saudi Arabia, Algeria and

"Many other newspapers have

taken the same position," al-Khazin said. "I really cannot pin

one particular reason why we are

The paper publishes the views of militants and moderates alike, and

terrorists have often sent faxes to

its offices to make threats against

others or claim responsibility for

acts, including the June bombing

that killed 19 US airmen in Saudi

Jim Zogby, president of the Arab-American Institute, said the

paper's base in London gives it a

freedom to report on Arab inter-

ests that it might not otherwise

And he contended Al-Hayat

publishes a variety of viewpoints

not firmly behind the Saudi gov-

ernment, including a harsh tone on

US policy in the region and one

writer's recent call for rapproche-

"They have not taken the line of

the Saudi dissidents who operate

in London," he said: "But frankly

I don't think a whole lot of people

ostractized Jordan for his perceived

pro-laq tilt following the Aogust

After its liberation, Kuwait dis-

missed thousands of Jordanians

from their jobs in the emirate,

closed down the Jordanian

embassy there, and recalled its

ambassador from the kingdom.

Relations improved last year, when

Jordan began distancing itself from

Iraq, publicly criticizing the leader-ship in Baghdad and granting asy-

Jordanian and Kuwaiti officials

met several times last year and

exchanged diplomatic letters, and

Kuwait also resumed telephone

However, Arab diplomats say

anti-Jordanian sentiments remain

hum to dissidents.

links with Jordan.

high in Kuwait.

1990 traqi invasion of Kuwait.

ment with Iran.

Jordanians visit

detained relatives

targeted and not someone else."

moned the police.

al-Khazin said.

it, saw a wire and sum-

YRIA was quick to blame Israel for last week's terrorist attack on a civilian bus in Damascus. Not forgetting that the orders for similar attacks on Israeli cities emanated from Damascus, such a declaration is less importantly a soggestion that israel was behind this attack, or the others that haverecently been carried out against Syrian military targets in Lebanon, and more a reminder that terrorism is regarded by the Syrian regime as a legitimate tool in foreign relations. Damascus does sponsor terrorist organi-

zations that operate not only against Israel. but against almost all of its neighbors, and even beyond. The most serious suspicion of Syria's involvement in terrorism is related to last year's bombing of the Dhahran residence buildings of American military personnel in Saudi Arabia.

The Americans are investigating reports that the explosives came from the Syrian-

PINHAS INBARI

controlled Bekaa region in Lebanon - an issue that may develop into a senous problem between Syria and the USA. (It is strange that the Syrians did not seriously take into consideration American attempts to exclude them from the list of countries hosting terrorism.)

In the same Bekaa region, units of the Kurdish anti-Turkish "Labor Party" terrorist organization are being trained. Last year, Syria sent threatening terrorist cells to Jordan to attempt to prevent King Hussein from proceeding along his path to normalization of relations with Israel.

Most interestingly, Paris reacted to the reports last week by rehuking Syria for its French reaction may even indicate that Paris knows something about a possible Syrian connection with the Algerian fundamentalist group operating in the "City of Lights."

In this regard, it is worth mentioning the stormy meeting President Jacques Chirac had with the Christian Lehanese in Beirut's French Cultural Center during his Middle East tour last year. The Christians lamented the French president for starting his visit in Damascus, of all places.

They informed him of the hrutal rule of Syria over Lehanon, and Chirac was embarrassed. The French exposure in Paris to terrorist activity, and the existence in Bekaa of fundamentalist groups, may have caused the French to review their opinion of the Syrian

Over the years, France has supported the Christians (and Palestinians) in Lehanon, while Syria was regarded as an American ally. Former Lebanese president Michel Aoun was widely regarded as being backed by Paris, against the Syrians. He adamantly demanded the evacuation of Syrian troops from Lebanon after they were legalized under the US-sponsored Taif agreements on the eve of the Kuwait crisis. After he was toppled by the Syrians he found refuge in France, and lately he has resumed his pub-

lic appearances there. Whoever is really responsible for the attack in Damascus is still a mystery, but perhaps Syria received a message from its neighbors that terrorism is a double-edged sword - especially after the two main Western powers involved in Lehanese politics, the US and France, became targets of possible Syrian-sponsored terrorism.

Blind Egyptian orchestra bewitches an invisible world

MIRAL FAHMY

GYPTIAN conductor Ahmed Abul Eid taps three times with his baton, then stands aside as his female symphony orchestra bewitches the packed hall in Cairo with music from Bizet's opera Carmen ..

Faces furrowed in concentration, the 45 musicians of the Light and Hope Orchestra pluck vinlins, clash cymbals and beat drums they cannot see io a rhythm they have learned by rote.

This is the only orchestra in the world whose members are blind," says the silver-haired Eid. "No other country in the world considered taking on this experi-

ment because they said it was impossible. How can an orchestra play without the guidance of a maestro and without reading the music?" he chuckles. Set up in the 1960s as part of

the Light and Hope Institute for Blind Girls, the orchestra has brought rapt audiences to their feet throughout most of the Middle East, Europe and parts of Asia with passionate renditions of the classics.

They have received countless awards and played well-known symphonies at some of the world's most famous concert

balls. Eid, who helped expand the troupe from a handful of women who had music written especially for them, stands redundantly before his orchestra, arms dan-

"My role ends the moment they start to play. We practice a lot before each performance and they know what to do," he says of the orchestra, whose ages range from early teens to late 30s.

Twice a week the musicians practice for three to four hours nonstop a repertoire of Western and Arabic classics. False starts and discordant

tunes are sharply reprimanded and their groans totally disregard-Occasionally, in the throes of a

particularly intense movement, Eid's hands will fly out of his pockets and wave before the sightless women. Classical music has so many

subtleties and nuances but these girls manage to learn it. 1 compare them to a computer which we fill with information that can be retrieved when necessary," Eid



One of the 45 blind female musicians of the Light and Hope Orchestra checks musical notes in braille during a rehearsal.

Eid reads the music to the institute's hlind music teachers who transcribe it into braille. After

tures of these reckless youth in newspapers," said a police offi-cial. This has helped to give secu-rity to all women in Dubai and to

install in men proper moral codes

of conduct and decency as taught

Actual proof, based on an eye-

witness report, is needed before

police can enforce the sheikh's

nine-month-old rule. In addition,

by Islam."

sions begin. "The strings, percussion and

wind instrument players practise tices until the whole symphony is

that, the painstaking practice ses- separately and until they know it perfectly. After that, the whole orchestra gets together and prac-

against repercussions of criminal-

izing the mostly "bored young

boys" in the Gulf Arab state. "By

publishing his picture, you can

perfect. Then we are ready," he

With harely concealed pride, Eid points to the perfect synchrooization of his violinists' bows and says that many leading Arah orchestras have yet to do the same. "We practice hard, Our girls want to be perfect. My biggest obstacle is always the music iostruments and not the

players," he says. "We have to play well to get good applause. That's the ultimate goal of any musician," says Soad Sohhi, who has been playing the violin with the orchestra for 15 years.

Like most of her colleagues, Sobbi sees what critics have hailed as a miraculous performance as just another day's work. "I have never felt that being blind was an obstacle," says viola

player Nadia Hamdi. "On the contrary, being blind makes us special, we're the ooly orchestra in the world that is blind and that makes us more distinguished than anyone sighted."

Malak el-Shirbini, chairwoman of the Light and Hope institute, says the purpose of the organization is to integrate its students into a society where the handi-capped are given fleeting thought and have nothing but a peripheral

"The society was set up in 1954 to give blind girls a productive

have several sections which produce socks for the army, knitted clothes and plastic bottles which major companies ask us to fill up with vinegar and oil. We give the girls wages for their work and many other students have gone to university and work outside," she

In the music room, Eid scowls fiercely and raps his baton angrily oo the table as the violinists start milliseconds after the

flautists. "How many times have we gone through this?" he snaps at 45 apologetic faces.

A talking clock squeaks "It's six o'clock" before it is silenced by its owner, who nonetheless receives another furious glance from Eid.

"We will begin, again," he says and the orchestra launches into the overture of Domenico Cimarosa's opera The Secret

Arabia, Qatar and Oman, which

have managed to keep their soci-

eties segregated, social workers

(Reuter)

Gulf Arabs, including Kuwait, In Saudi Arabia, snacking during Ramadan may mean deportation

"N the Sandi capital Riyadh, the tion of their work contracts and Interior Ministry has issued its annual warning that non-Moslems could face deportation if they are caught eating or drinking in public during the Ramadan month of fasting, newspapers reported last weekend.

During the holy month, which starts next week, Moslems abstain from food and drink from dawn till dusk. The exact date will be determined by the sighting of the new moon.

The ministry warned the one million non-Moslem expatriates living in Saudi Arabia (out of a total population of 17 million) that if they are caught drinking, eating or smoking in public they face punishments including termina-

deportation.

Moslems caught eating in public are jailed for no more than a week, lectured in prison about their conduct and encouraged to fast and pray with others jailed on similar

Other Gulf states also punish those caught eating, drinking or smoking in public during the holiday. In Bahrain, violators can be iniled until the end of the month and have their heads shaved. In the United Arab Emirates, violators face one month in jail or a fine of up to 1,500 dirhams (\$410). Anyone caught drinking alcohol in public during Ramadan in the UAE could be sentenced to 80 lashes.

Libya sentences eight to death for spying

fians to death for spying, calling them "tools of the enemies of the revolution" and alleging they used equipment from the CIA. But Libyan experts in Cairo said they believed the sentences were related not to espionage, but to a 1993 coup attempt that has never been publicly acknowledged by Libyan leader Musmmar Gaddafi.

The sentences were issued last week by the Supreme Military Court The officers were to be executed by firing squad, and the civilians by hanging. Libya's state-run television said six other. officers and two civilians were cquitted.
The television, monitored by the homeland."

IBYA has sentenced six mil- BBC, showed an unidentified offiinary officers and two civil- cial in civilian clothes reading a statement to the court after the sentences had been given. "You mobilized yourselves as spies against your country and allowed the enemies to get hold of military, economic, and security capabilities by using sophisticated equipment supplied by the CIA," the official said.

Libya says Gaddafi's 15-month-old adopted daughter was among those killed in the 1986 bombing.

The television added in reference to the defendants: 'Those who broke the oath and offered themselves as tools of the enemies of the revolution ... receive the punishment they deserve, for the disgrace they brought on the

ALE fear of being pub-licly shamed in a conservative, closely knit society has cut down on harassment of women in Dubai, the Gulf's most cosmopolitan city.

Under a recent crackdown, police are publishing pictures of so-called "Eve-teasers" in newspapers. Some of the alleged offenders are expatriates, mainly from Asian countries. Others are Gulf Arabs.

The risk of public disgrace in a Moslem society, where many families know each other, is acting as a deterrent. This is scaring many affluent

young men with nothing much to do, who are being blamed for harassment, a problem rare in the sexually segregated societies of the Gulf. From Gulf Arab women enveloped head to foot in tradi-

tional black robes to Europeans in revealing miniskirts, women are subjected to whistles, winks and whispers. "Cases of female harassment have dropped to 19 last year, from 69 in 1995 and 94 in 1991 since,

[Crown Prince] Sheikh Mohammad bin Rashid al-

Maktoum decided to display pic-

offenders' cars are impounded for up to a month and they are detained for 48 hours. Dubai has a reputation for being the most tolerant of the seven sheikhdoms that make up the United Arab Emirates, Alcohol is served in hotel restaurants and foreign womeo wear skimpy bikinis

Police in other emirates, including Sharjah and Abu Dhabi, also chase alleged offenders but do not publish their pictures. According to UAE laws, a man can be fined up to \$3,000 and jailed for up to a year if convicted of physical or

verbal acts in public "deemed offensive to female decency." Most officials say women have rarely pressed charges because of strict social traditions.

Young, mostly clean-shaven

RANA SABBAGH

Flirtatious men in United Arab Emirates risk shame, jail

gather near entrances to schools and air-conditioned shopping malls to try to meet women in a country where traditions ban males from mixing with females before marriage. Others throw tiny ofeces of paper at women listing their mobile telephone oumbers in the hope of starting a dialogue, or chase them, often in luxury Mercedes or BMWs.

"I am here to ensure law and order from these irresponsible minors who have nothing to do but to insult women," said a policeman patrolling undercover in a flowing white rohe in a shopping complex.

The crackdown has sparked criticism by many men who believe similar punishment should be inflicted on women who opeoly flirt with them. Women should dress modestly if they do oot want to attract attention, they say.

"I have seen hooligans of all nationalities harass women," said Naji Ali, a 35-year-old Lebanese businessman. "But to be fair, 1 must say that I have been harassed myself by women calling me on men, doused in heavy cologne, my mobile phone at odd hours and

THE PALESTINIANS BETWEEN TERRORISM AND STATEHOOD...

trying to arrange dates. Women also wink at me and try to pass notes to me in shopping malls."

Social researcher Rashid Mohammad Rashid, 36, warms

Mohammad Rashid, 36, warms

Harassment is rare in Saudi



Pinhas Inbari's book provides an in-depth account of the current Israel-Palestinian peace process, including developments in the Israeli-occupied territories, and the internal struggles within the PLO and between the PLO and its adversaries. Softcover, 258 pp. IP Price NIS 95 incl. VAT. p&h in Israel.

To: Books, The Jerusalem Post, POB 81, Jerusalem 91000 Please send me _____copies of The Palestinians Between Terrorism and Statehood

Enclosed is my check payable to The Jerusalem Post. Credit card orders accepted by tel/fax/e-mail: orders@jpost.co.il

Nation of Islam leader returns to Libya ATION of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan is making his third visit to Libya in a year. Farrakhan arrived in Tripolion Sunday, the Libyan news agency JANA reported. No details of the visit were provided.

the visit were provided. Farrakhan visited Libya in January and September 1996, and met with Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi, whom the US has accused of sponsoring ter-

rorism. During the September visit, Gaddafi gave

accept Gaddafi's offer of a S1 billion gift, which the Black Muslim leader says would be used for voter registration drives and economic development among

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Fixing Oslo

HE man to beat in the race to succeed Shimon Peres as leader of the Labor Party is former IDF chief of general staff and foreign minister Ehud Barak. On Saturday, Barak suggested that the dates built into the Oslo Accords for Israel's further redeployments needed to be changed. Then, adding insult to injury from a Labor perspective, he said that Infrastructure Minister and right-wing icon Ariel Sharon should be listened to regarding security arrangements in Hebron.

Monday's Labor Knesset faction meeting was devoted to withering attacks on Barak, including from his newest supporter, former tourism minister and popular Labor figure Uzi Baram. Haim Ramon fumed. "If this is the truth, then Bihi is right." Dalia Itzik accused Barak of "granting Netanyahu a present," while Baram declared that Ehud made a mistake, because the Likud is looking for ways out of Oslo," and Barak's words have given Binyamin Netanyahu such an excuse.

But, like it or not, Barak has put his finger on one of Oslo's greatest internal contradictions, and not for the first time. When Peres sought authorization for the further redeployments from then-prime minister Yitzhak Rabin, Barak was the only minister involved in the peace process who objected.

At that time, Barak said, "This puts us in an impossible dilemma. If we give so much territory away in redeployments, then we have no cards when we are faced with the toughest final status issues. However, if we go to final status now, it could lead to a dead end because the sides are not yet ripe. It is not good for Israel and not good for peace."

In fact, Oslo is schizophrenic when it comes to dealing with tough final status issues. On the one hand, the issues of settlements, Jerusalem, refugees, and sovereignty are left to final status. On the other, the further redeployments will give up on what for them might more naturally be a final status issue - the PLO Covenant.

It was certainly justifiable for Israel to demand at the outset that the Palestinians annul their pledge to bring about Israel's destruction. But the covenant was also home to the entire list of Palestinian demands, including those to be discussed in a final status context. Most importantly, it symbolized the "armed struggle" against Israel which the Palestinians had supposedly given up, but in practice have always kept in reserve if they fail to achieve their goals through negotiations.

Israel's cards concern territory; the Palestinian's cards concern peace - that is the nature of the beast. Oslo's internal contradiction is between each side giving up its cards early on

in the process, or holding them to the end. Barak's concern is that the breakdown in trust

between the sides (which he blames on Netanyahu) will cause this internal contradiction to blow Oslo apart, and that only way to save Oslo is to correct it. "Anyone with eyes in his head sees that any attempt to solve the problem of Jerusalem and other problems in eight months is impossible. Therefore, the only sensible way to bridge between the need to force Netanyahu [to carry out the further redeployments) and the need to setting agreed upon dates is to establish new dates," he said. The He bron talks are no longer about Hebron, but about what both sides will agree to regarding the road ahead. At this moment, Netanyahu is proposing that the further redeployments end at the same time as the final status negotiations - May 1999 - and that Palestinians rectify their own violations of Oslo by the same date.

The Netanyahu proposal levels the playing field and minimizes the amount of negotiation, thereby reduciog the risk of a breakdown. In essence, both Barak and Netanyahu are trying to repair the internal contradictions of Oslo by lumping everything into final status talks. This makes sense for all concerned, and it is time for Oslo's proponents to admit this.

As a freight train compelling its passengers to stay on hoard until reaching its final destination, Oslo is so far a success. But as a salve to build trust, smooth over differences, and warm up the atmosphere before entering final negotiations, Oslo has failed.

The interim agreement has become a sword of Damocles hanging over the prospect of final status talks. The interim agreement was essentially a transition phase necessitated by the unreadiness of both sides to enter final status negotiations. Its job done, the interim agreement should not be abandoned, but instead quietly absorbed into the final status talks, thus reducing the risk that the process will collapse over transition issues.

give the Palestinians control over almost all the .- It is important to remember here that the perterritory in dispute before final status negotia- son who opened up the issue of the date of final tions begin. The Palestipians were also meant to redeployment during the Hebron negotiations was not Barak or Netanyahu but Yasser Arafat. He is the one insisting that Israel commit to dates. Once a negotiation over dates has begun, it makes sense to pick a date that is healthiest

for the process as a whole. The fact that the United States is reportedly proposing a compromise date indicates that it might agree with this perspective. Ideally, the date proposed by US envoy Dennis Ross should allow the final redeployment to be integrated into the final status talks rather than risk torpe-

doing them. It is important that the Oslo agreement be honored, and in geoeral neither side should seek to reopen it. The government certainly should not try to change the agreement simply to avoid complying with it. But if an opportunity arises to fix Oslo in order to save it, that opportunity should be taken.

While Arab autonomy in Israel

may be important, it should extend

no deeper than the soles of their

feet. My children retain the right

to Hehron as established by

Ahraham. This right was ensured

by the blood and dedication of

generations of those who did oot

compromise on these basic funda-

sites, at women attempting to pray

in organized form. Lunatics

Islamic fundamentalists have as

much to do with Islam as these

'haredim" have to do with

Judaism. You do a disservice to us

all by allowing them to hide

MICHAEL D. HIRSCH

Mineola, N.Y.

behind the label.

Kochav Yair.

SCOTT DAVID LIPPE, M.D.

MEIR RONNENCOTT CABINET EGYPT

It's just a bad joke

THE nation has been wrestling with some thorny questions. easier to ask than to answer. the boundaries of the future state and of a general strike - and the limits of political satire. The last may have more to do with the first two than appears at first glance.

Some enlightened groups have been heard claiming that when it comes to satire, our public lacks tol-erance. I myself hold that no other state fighting for its existence has ever put up with the level of murderous self-mockery that Israel has, One could call us the Garden of Eden - or, more accurately, the Wild West - of public satire.

In any event, it would seem that this is how it has to be; some even claim it is the sign of a bealthy public debate.

So the only remaining question is: What exactly constitutes satire? First we got that young fellow with the sweet smile and funny spectacles, Gil Kopatch, playing

Thus God created man: to strive after ratings

around with our holy texts on staterun TV like some naughty high-

He soon got hicky, achieving the dream of every Israeli performer. A Shas deputy minister, Shlomo Benizri, making a loud and public protest, turned our Gil, overnight, into the region's most celebrated satirist - especially after Kopatch met the haredi macher face to face and gave him a lesson in freedom of speech.

Kopatch became a media darling. Following his comments about the Creator's passion for American movies and about stoned and burping boly men having willies and other amusing appendages, not only did Kopatch's ratings skyrocket, even our Knesset representatives received him with fanfare.

There was never any doubt about Kopatch being a candidate for the Israel Prize, even thought Motti Kirschenbaum had already won it for Israeli humor.

Our performing community are quick learners. It speedily got through to them that high ratings aren't netted through scandal alone; you also need an official "activist," the more extreme the better, to

explode in a fit. According to statistics recently put out by the Media Institute for the Study of the Insult Market, a fit of rage by a rebgious or right-wing minister is likely to boost the ratings of the average satirist by 1g perceot, when accompanied by

financial threats, 23 percent, An emotional protest by the premier has the market value of 24-26 percent; and by Sara, 30-34 percent, taking into account the level of vulgarity originally employed, and the amount of anger elicited.

No wonder, therefore, that those responsible for the Hartzufim basked in Kopatch's runaway success and decided that they also would go out and acquire a protest that was truly worthy of them and not only among the public, but in the free press too.

How to do it? The editors brought all their weighty professionalism to bear on the challenge, and reached a conclusion: Since they had already emptied all their dumdum bullets into "Bibi and Sara," the only remaining target for a bit of biting satire was the couple's son Yair.

EPHRAIM KISHON

The mission was successfully accomplished, with the press responding that "Anyone who gets himself photographed with his family shouldn't be surprised to see his son portrayed as a little monster." But Bibi let them down; only Avigdor Lieberman blew up, bring-

ing in, at most, 79 percent. A further clever attempt was made to portray the PM as a bird doing its business on the head of President Clinton, dressed up as a scarecrow. Again, the program's rating didn't climb to the expected

Israeli pobtical satire has been in really bad shape lately. As something of a last resort, the Hartzufim were forced to pick on Shimon Peres, showing him ouzzling up to the premier, barking like a little poodle,

What they didn't take into account was that Peres, who has spent his entire life being hounded by the media, is quite immune to this sort of thing. The old so-and-so kept his cool this time as well, preventing the rating from climbing

appropriately.

Then this brilliant idea dawned in those noble, enlightened circles: to surprise loser Shitton with a screening of that successful scene blanched and looked shamefaced.

THE perplexing thing about the whole phenomenon is that the Hartzufim is a show of unparalleled popularity. It has no need for the kind of vulgarity it continues to

But there's nothing to be done. Thus God created man. From days of yore he has striven for high ratings. In times past, the Cameri Quintet stole even my heart with its stubborn

determination not to descend to the unpleasantness that is so prevailing. Unfortunately, however, they too got infected with the Kopatch Syndrome. Blasting off into Yair's kindergarten with all their considerable acting abilities, they elicited loud cries from the PM's Office.

from Mrs. PM and from Yair's teacher as well. Bullseye! The Cameri Quintet sprouted wings in our robust public opinion.

The group's members announced, with straight faces, that their only intention was to employ their communicative talents in the creation of artistry, and other things of this kind. But in their heart of hearts these talented youngsters must have known that what they were doing bore as much resemblance to political satire as my grandmother.

In that same broadcast, they presented the IDF in its terrible moral decay, and the Jewish religion as a transparent fig leaf for business

But first place went again to the his called "Bibi," this time mouthing ridiculous rhetoric in a death camp using halting English. Also exposed in the program were the GSS's "butchers," their hands stained with fresh blood, caring only about their crotches. In

short - social satire at its best. Everything happened as foreseen. Kopatch woke up, realized his thunder was about to be stolen, and decided he was going to be the next Aviv Gefen, on the receiving end of

In view of Gil's new stature, little wonder that the producers of Popolitika jumped for joy when that giant of satire accepted their invita-

a stream of kisses.

tion to sing something on the show. Gil soon made himself at home there. He called himself "a maniac" and proceeded to cloak with the profound contempt in which he holds this stinking country a few pathetic clowns like Theodor Herzl, David Beo-Gurion and Yosef Trumpeldor.

One might ask why the show's producers agreed to this. For the record, it should be stated that at the end of this piece of brilliant political satire, our worthy bost Dan Margalit gave a somewhat crooked smile. But it was clear that he too bowed his head before the virtuoso.

Now only a few national topics remained for brilliant satirical treatment Reuma Weizman as a lesbian; the PM sleeping with his (fired) au pair; the Almighty in the bathroom, ripping pages out of the Scriptures.
That's the state of the political

satire market right now. No satire, no politics, no nothing. Genuine satire is compressed

truth, truth peeled of hypocrisy. The moment reality disappears from behind satire, it's not satire any more, just plain vulgarity. God doesn't watch movies; a

proud man like Shimon Peres wouldn't abase himself at Netanyahu's feet, and Netanyahu does subject himself to Clinton's

Herzl wasn't exactly a funny little dwart, he was a grant of numan

The moment reality disappears from behind satire, it's just plain vulgarity

tory; and anyone who impersonates our premier as someone unable to utter one coherent sentence in English isn't creating political satire but sheer nonsense.

IT WOULD seem that behind the chase after ratings lurks no small measure of self-batted, the sad legacy of a people chosen for endless persecution, a people which, during 2,000 years of Diaspora, has unconsciously clothed itself in the vile accusations of its persecutors.

Envy too might play a role in this gnawing away at the self one finds among the enlightened - that wellknown Jewish envy to which Moses devoted two whole commandments out of 10; the envy that those who despise their country direct toward those who believe in it, who still take their Judaism seriously.

There isn't too much room in our media today for those who dare whisper into the void that the overriding majority of Jews voted for Bioyamin Netanyahu. There's little room for those who cannot hide their pride in the Jewish state, its faults notwithstanding.

A recent Cameri Quintet was something of a let-down for viewers expecting a fresh torrent of abuse. It was as if these talented young people had abandoned their mission to serve as ratings hawkers, and had returned to a more seemly

10 percent. Perhaps they had discovered that there is no greater lie than the selfrighteous claim that brutal and lying self-ridicule in the media raises public morale. It raises only the

Perhaps the time has come to privatize state-run satire.

The writer is an internationallyacclaimed journalist, writer, playwright and humorist.

FOUR GERMAN graffiti artists

who went to New York City to

paint the town were arrested after

allegedly jumping a subway rum-

Munich, were charged with fare

evasion and possession of more

than two dozen cans of spray

town red, white, blue, green,"

According to police, the four, aged between 19 and 22, said

they came here to graffiti the sub-

police said.

They came here to paint the

The suspects, who arrived from

Clear as mud

TEDDY PREUSS

THE prime minister receotly urged his cabinet ministers to rally round a concerted campaign to explain the govern-ment's policies to the public. Not surprisingly, some ministers asked, "What's to explain

when there's no policy?" Were Binyamin Netanyahu employed in some office oo Madison Avenue, bis request would have been reasonable. But he is employed by the State of Israel and has more important duties than information or "hasbara" (a word which, I am told, bas become acceptable in Americanese), among them set-

ting policy.
Only after hammering out his government's policies should Netanyahu spend time explaining them, and not the other way around.

The problem is that our premier deems it a success when CNN devotes a minute and a half to him, and only a minute to Chairman Arafat or President Mubarak.

If there is any single area of the cabinet's tasks that hasn't been neglected, it is hasbara.

Netanyahu has been tireless in trying to persuade the public that in the wake of his government's actions - usually his own TV appearances and press conferences - Israel's position has been strengthened, and all previous

misunderstandings erased. lodeed! Israel's international standing has eroded not because its positions haven't been sufficiently clarified but because other governments do not per-

The more the prime minister's policies are explained, the murkier they get

ceive Israel as having any real policies at all.

Decisions intended to strengthen the settlements are not received favorably anywhere in the world, with the exception of "Jewish" Hebron and the settle-Israel imposed on the territories legitimately or misguidedly is perceived as oppression, and the opening of tunnels as needless provocation.

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In fact, with the exception of the tunnel opening, very few of bis declared intentions have actually been carried oot.

Netanyahu promised the US Congress that Israel would take the initiative in reducing the level of US economic aid it receives; that government com-panies and public services would be privatized; and that the bureaucracy would be cut down to size within a few months.

He implied to his voters that once he was elected, he would change the Oslo agreement Now, whenever be is asked, he reiterates his intention to honor He promised to redeploy from

Hebron, but in the meantime there are more IDF units there than ever. .

He promised never to cede the Golan, but some of his ministers repeatedly declare that there is no hope for peace with Syria without withdrawal.

He promised to slash the budget mercilessly; but what was actually slashed is very debatable. Simultaneously, the settlements have been promised additional incentives and support.

Every schoolchild promised a computer of his own. but so far only additional school fees have been decreed.

clections. Before the Netanyaho promised be would never meet Arafat. He has since met him several times, each time heaping greater praise on the man. The list of his promises and

contrary deeds goes on. The more they are explained, the murkier his policies get. Hashara is no substitute for policy.

THE PROBLEM stems from the fact that it basn't yet dawned on Netanyahu that he is prime minister.

Israel does need good information; but more than that, it needs clear policies, even if they are misguided ones that could merease friction with the nations in the regioo and the whole world, and possibly even lead as

An absence of policy is the worst possible situation. When we have a publicist instead of a prime minister sitting in the government offices on Rehov Kaplan in Jerusalem, we cannot but shudder at the memory of the article written m. the 1980s by US deputy sectetary of state George Ball. It was entitled "How to save Israel.

The writer is a veteran journalist

despite herself."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FUNDAMENTALS

city reconquered by our people -

Jericho. It is no surprise that this

spreading cancer now threatens

Hebron, the first national capital

While some Jews may devalue

the worth of our heritage and

depth of our national existence, no

segment of the Jewish people have

the ability to relinquish the rights

of the whole group. Similarly, no

Knesset proclamation or treaty can

TRUE HAREDIM

under King David.

Sir. - All through Jewish history. our leadership and people have never voluntarily relinquished our claim to any part of the Land of Israel. In our own era, we have witnessed the rebirth of our national sovereignty in the land and the return of exiles from the four corners of the earth.

Allowing the establishment of foreign control over parts of the land is a contradiction of our very existence as a people. Ironically. this process began with the first

Sir. - The Western press has fall-

en into the trap of labeling lunatic

terrorists as "Islamic fundamental-

ists." It seems that here in Israel.

we suffer from a similar myopia.

In your issue of December 22.

there is a headline which reads

"Haredim throw rocks at police."

Since your story reports on events

which occurred on Shabbat, the

True haredim would not dese-

headline is an oxymoron.

ever sever the right of our people

stones and bottles. Lunatics would. True haredim would oot violate basic precepts of our faith by assaulting a woman who opened her door to another woman seeking a divorce from her husband. Lunatics would. True haredim would not desecrate God's name by harassing women eotering government offices. Lunancs would. True haredim would cot

crate the Shabbat by throwing

Sir. - MK Eli Goldschmidi's dramatic announcement that the number of traffic iojuries in 1996 will reach more than 46,000, representing a 21 percent increase,

is shocking indeed. Even more shocking is the fact that a program, "Less than 200 deaths by the year 2000," which was submitted to both present and past governments, personally distributed to every MK and the president as well as the ministers. has been totally ignored. Had this been even partially implemented the figures today would have shown a decline and not the reverse. The program was a direct result of our seminar which was held last January and included Israeli experts from throw chairs over the mehitra at

INJURY PREVENTION

every aspect of road safety, with support from the British governtake part.

the topic being injury prevention in the community, with the participation of local authorities. government representatives and Metuna at (09) 861-9466.

the Wall, our holiest of religious

meet which sent two experts to Metuna, logether with the Betts Injury Prevention Unit HU -Hadassah and the Center for Driver Research, will be holding further seminar on January 20, organizations. Anyone interested in attending should contact

ZELDA HARRIS Spokesperson, Metuna

WELL-DESERVED AWARD Sir. - Your health correspondedt, Judy Siegel-Itzkovich, well

would.

deserves her Hadassah "Woman of Distinction" Award. For the 12 years I was Shaare Zedek's press officer, we worked closely together and she was often my mentor as' well as a valued colleague and friend. For someooe who does oot have an MD, the depth of her medical and scientific knowledge is amazing and her Sunday Health or Science and Technology pages are always a learning experience. Congratulations, Judy - on being so prolific, so knowledge-

fessional women DVORA WAYSMAN Jerusalem.

able and such a role model for pro-

POSTSCRIPTS A MAGAZINE in New Zealand canceled an advertisement that depicts members of the Ku Klux

Klan gathered around a burning

The advertisement was for a color-separating machine called "Flame," used to the printing industry.

It featured the statement: "Our Flame's ability to separate colors has been praised by experts in the field." Admedia, an advertising industry

magazine, said it stopped running the ad after the Advertising Standards Complaints Board described it as "socially aresponsible."

AN ARGENTINE sailor missing and presumed dead after his ship was sunk in the Falklands War in 1982, has turned up in a mental

Oscar Montegrosso, 34, was found by his mother in the Montes de Oca asylum near Buenos Aires. where he was listed as "NN" - No

Elvira Montegrosso had kept up the search for her son and had heard that be might be at the asy-

Television pictures showed him sitting in the sun with other inmates, apparently unaware of all

Statue of Liberty." (هكد امن الأمل

way. They're not here to see the

duch our is the the the core do-

A good start to the Year of the Cow

THE psychology of numbers. Labor chairman Shimon Peres, who celebrated the start of the Chinese year of the cow by assuming the honorary presidency of the Council for the Promotion of Israel-China Relations, remarked that in thinking about his new job, he suddenly realized that China is 200 times the size of Israel. "It's bad enough to run one Israel," he commented, "but to run 200 Israels...!" Tel Aviv mayor Romi Milo also joined the oumbers game, observing that since Tel Aviv and Beijing had become sister cities promoting cultural exchanges, his constituency had grown to 60,400,000.

Though several references were made to various high-ranking Israeli officials who had visited China and to the part played by business tycoon Shoul Eisenberg in the establishment of Israel-China relations, no one recalled the late David Hacohen, who led a government mission to China as far back

PAUSING DURING a long speech in Chinese, Chi Huaiyaan, who heads the Chinese Association of Relations with Foreign Countries, corrected his translator who had made a mistake in English. But it is doubtful whether his linguistic skills surpass those of Wang Yukni, the Jerusalem-based, very personable representative of the Xinhua News Agency, who speaks fment English, Hebrew and Arabic, and who is also a talented singer Guests attending the festive CPICR function had the rare opportunity to hear him sing Chinese opera

WHEN SHE was planning to accompany her busband on his presidential tour of India, all Reuma Weizman could think of was that at last she would see the fabled Taj Mahal. But it was not to be. The Israel Air Force Boeing 707 circled the area twice; but the tarmac was too short and there were other technical reasons which

GRAPEVINE GREER FAY CASHMAN

prompted the pilot to decide against landing. President Ezer Weizman was in the cockpit and his wife prevailed upon him to use his influence. But it was all to no avail. In the end, Weizman praised the pilot for not yielding to social pressures which might have endangered the lives of the passengers.

Reuma Weizman didn't get to see the Taj Mahal this time, which is just one more good reason for yet another passage to India.

RELIGIOUSLY observant Jews visiting Moscow will soon be able to stay at a kosher hotel, eat in a kosher restaurant and shop in a kosher supermarket, all of which are part of a community complex being built under the auspices of Habad. A 1,000-seat synagogue which is also part of the complex, is due to be completed in time for High Holy Day services. Architect of the project is Tel Aviv-based Israel Goodovitch, who has already designed two major shopping malls in Moscow and has been commissioned for a third. The great-grandson of Rabbi Yisrael Meir Hacohen, better known as the Hafetz Haim, the secular Goodovitch has never before had a synagogue built to his specifications.

His plans for a synagogue in Yamit evaporated for political reasons when the territory was returned to Egypt. Two other synagogues which he designed in Nazareth and Jerusalem did not materialize for lack of funds. Now, finally, his portfolio will include a synagogue. Though a secularist all his life, Goodovitch, now in his sixties, has stopped working on the Sabbath. So far, this is his only concession to religion. But as he himself says, who knows? Maybe his great-grandfather, who was one of the founding leaders of Agudat Yisrael, is having a latent influence

THE PREMIERE at the Jerusalem Theater of the "Shared Experience" production of The Tempest, while not auracting a full house, nonetheless enjoyed a large and appreciative audience. However, hardly anyone other than the cast and a few officials turned up at the reception hosted by the British Council after the show. The few guests hung around in embarrassment. waiting for something to happen, and British Council director Harley Brookes literally had to be nudged into making a two-sentence speech. The bright spot was a note handed by a member of the audience to David Meyer, who played Alonso. The writer had gone to university with him and had appeared with him in The Crucible. But

SHE WAS hopping mad when the great love of her life began romancing her adopted daughter, but now Mia Farrow is even more furious with Woody Allen because he intends making a Mia-and-Woody film about their life together and their parting. Farrow has had enough of her privacy invaded and she doesn't want any more. Still, it will be interesting to see who Allen chooses to play the female lead, and more to the point, whether he will play the male lead himself.

Meyer couldn't quite figure out who it was because he didn't have

his spectacles with him.

IN AN unusually candid interview with Playboy Whoopi Goldberg, who usually plays guisy characters. proves to be pretty gutsy herself. The 41-year-old Oscar winner, who has just filed for divorce from Lyle Trachtenberg, her husband of one year's standing, admits to having practiced the oldest profession. When she was young and poor in San Diego, she became a drug addict and resorted to prostitution to support her habit and her daughter Alexandra, now 22. The elever lady decided to fess up before some snoopy reporter found out and spilled the beans.

ARTHUR SPIEGELMAN

THE "most trusted man in America" has written his memoirs and that trust seems well placed, even when he tells you the news medium he helped create is seriously flawed, and when he tells you his greatest disappointment was not going to

When Walter Cronkite speaks. Americans listen. He is, after all. the man whose "That's the way it is" at the end of every newscast Dutch-uncle demeanor, and high professional standards, helped wean the US away from reading newspapers to depending first and often solely - on television to give them the news.

The CBS anchorman who guided America through the agony of the Kennedy assassination, who warned that the war in Vietnam could not be won, and that Watergate was a major scandal. helped create a monster, the dominance of TV news. Looking back. be is not happy about that.

A career can be called a success if one can look back and say: 'I made a difference.' I doo't feel I can do that," he wrote near the end of A Reporter's Life, a memoir he avoided writing for more than 20 years, until a knee replacement operation two years ago left him unable, for a while, to drive fast ears, sail yachts, or seriously dream of being the first journalist to set foot on the moon.

Now 80, he has fashioned his memoirs as a tour through more than a half century of American iournalism; from the Great Depression to the depressing present, when fewer and fewer people read oewspapers or even bother watching the 22 minutes a night of network news headlines.

"We were interested in delivering as much news as we could. But when you compress you get more heat than light. We were giving people a guide to their day; for fuller information they were supposed to read newspapers. They've since given that up entire-



America's most trusted man

Walter Cronkite's career led him to guide America through some of its toughest crises, all recorded in his memoir. (Reuter)

ly," he told Reuters at the office he still keeps in Black Rock, the CBS building, where the volumes of "Facts-on-File" in his bookcase go back to 1943.

Cronkite started the first national half-hour nightly oews for CBS in September 1963, and presided over it until he retired at age 65 in 1981, expecting to continue doing special reports for CBS. But, he said, a new oews management team at CBS froze him out, and the bitterest pages in his book are

about his treatment "as a leper" by that now-discredited management, and about "the hotelier." Lawrence Tisch, who took over the network from its founder, William Paley, and ran it down, down, down before selling out for a profit.

But those pages come at the end of the 383-page book, forming a sort of old man's brush with win-

The stories that precede them are on a grander scale: conflicts

involving titans, not penny-pinchers. He tells how he covered the Second World War at the front and avoided getting killed (part cowardice, part luck, part heroism).

He recreates his time covering Stalin's grim Moscow for United Press, and later, when he worked for CBS, getting John F. Kennedy so red hot by asking him about his Catholieism that Kennedy called up Cronkite's bosses and tried to blackmail them to take him off covering the campaign.

And in one of the book's most powerful stories, he tells how he went to Vietnam after the Tet Offensive and came back so disillusioned that he decided to give a personal note about the war at the end of a special report.

To journalists of Cronkite's generation the hardest thing was to give their own opinion, flat out.

"To say that we are closer to victory today is to believe, in the face of the evidence, the optimists who have been wrong in the past. To suggest we are on the edge of defeat is to yield to unreasonable pessimism. To say we are mired in stalemate seems the only realistic, yet unsatisfactory conclusion," he

He concluded: "It is increasingly clear to this reporter that the only rational way out, then, will be to negotiate, not as victors, hur as honorable people who lived up to their pledge to defend democracy and did the best they could."

Lyndon Baioes Johnson, the president who made Vietnam his war, watched Cronkite that oight. An aide in the room with him reported that he flipped off the set and said, "If I bave lost Cronkite, I've lost middle America." Five weeks later Johnson announced he would not seek a second term.

LBJ trusted the not-easily-given opinion of the most trusted man in America, a man who says he is stopped nowadays by strangers on the street and asked, "Didn't you used to be Walter Cronkite?" Yes he was, and still is.

(Pre)fixations

A. MARK CLARFIELD

REFIXES, kind of forward all to the modern eye? Renege looking add-ons, are lots of springs to mind. Would you forand transmogrify other more once, but lose patience if it hapmaudio words. And others agree. For example, The New York Times wordsworth William Safire recently featured a short glossary on meta-ending his piece with a definition of the neologism

In another time and place, a catlike James Joyce (sharpened pen in lieu of claw) also enjoyed playing with these linguistic mice. For example, a sentence from Ulysses cootains the following: "...transubstantiality oder consubstantiality but in no case subsubstantiali-

Not surprisingly, doctors love them too. Hypo- and hyper- are omnipresent in our lingo and literature. Quasi- and pseudo- warn us against mere appearances. Dis-(dys- in the United Kingdom) informs so many mal-functions. But MDs aren't the only ones to find these little demi-words of use. Without prefixes, English would be lost. But more oo that later.

The Compact Edition of the Oxford English Dictionary defines orefixes as: "a verbal element placed before and joined to a word or stem to add to or qualify its meaning." So far so good. Bur the definition rambles on into (for me) a kind of grammatical incoherence: "...or [in some languages] as an inflexional formative: strictly applied only to inseparable particles." Very interesting, but not all that useful to most of us in our day-to-day work.

We are all familiar with the usual prefixes which come to us from Latin or Greek, such as peridis-, anti-, and pro-. (The last mentioned reminds me of the old vaudeville quip "Are you Protagoras or against him?")

There are a surprising lot of these stick-ons about For example the Britannica Book of English Usage offers 70. Not only are there threescore and ten of these little word-helpers, but they have been carefully classified by those in the know. Some are designated negative such as a-, dis-, or un-. One authority informs that of these, un- is by far the most productive, and he helpfully points out the reason: "since it typically involves less lexicalization than the other prefixes."

The classification continues. There are reversative prefixes (pre-), pejorative prefixes (pseudo-), prefixes of degree or size (arch-), prefixes of orientation or attitude (anti-), locative prefixes (fore-), prefixes of time and order (ex-), oumber prefixes (bi-), and my all-time favorite, the miscellaneous neo-classical prefix (such as

auto- or not surprisingly, neo-) Some words without their prefixes are perfectly intelligible. Good examples would be super-natural or amoral. But what about those words which, when their prefixes are lopped off in a kind of syntactic terror, make no sense at



guy? Villams may act maliciously, but which protagonist is ever seen to comport himself in a icious A recent newspaper article advises parents oot to become

consternated by their children's sloppy habits. But what if they do clean up their rooms? Should moms or dads get stemated? The little devils have, in spite of their rude ways, inveigled themselves into your heart. But if they fail to find your affections, have they

Sometimes prefixes are grafted on most inappropriately. (Here. the in- of inappropriate is not being used in an inappropriate manner.) Irregardless is my

manner?

favorite example, and is charitably described in my dictionary as a "non-standard usage" of regardless. Come to think of it, what exactly does gardless mean?

There is an endless list of words that, stripped bare of their prefixes, look as unbecoming as a preacher with his pants down. Nooplussed, obviate, precarious, and sublime are good examples. Even constipated fits the bill. (Could it be that stipated was once a synonym for regular?)

As a Jewish physician I cannot help mentioning the medical term for a little bit of male anatomy snipped off via circumcisioo - the prepuce. It must follow then that after the operation, we men are left with a mere puce.

Like foreskins, prefixes (especially when they fall off) are loads of fun. Above all, we owe a vote of thanks to the Greeks and Romans who supplied us with so many of these nifty little modi-

One final question. If a prefix can be defined as "one or more letters or syllables added to the beginning of a root word," what does a fix refer to? And if anyone can answer this answer this quesoon to my saosfacoon, I would be very gruntled.

Entrance tests don't need to be damaging to a child's self-esteem

by-laws that require accepting a

View the cotrance tests as a pol-

school's catchment area.

AST year, my son was rejected from two schools to which we had applied for first grade. Most of his triends got into these schools. My daughter is going into first grade next year. If she also gets rejected, how do I present this to her in a way that won't damage her self-image?

At this time of the year, many parents think about the advantages and disadvantages of sending a child to a school that either has a special emphasis, an alternative method of educating, or a different ideological basis. These schools may or may not have an entrance examination or screening process. Ask yourselves these questions: Do we want what this school has to offer? Will it be good for our child to go to such a school and why? And do we want (i.e. is it worth it) to put our child through a test?

I would encourage parents to carefully examine their motivations for sending their child to a school that screens out children. They should also make sure that they are able to live with an alternative before they put the child through a screening process or entrance examination. It's important not to feel that this one school is the only way your child can be in a good school or receive a good education. If they feel this is the only possibility the child has and he is not accepted, it will follow, in the child's perception, that something is wrong with him.

icy rather than as tests of ability. You can tell your child from the **RUTH MASON** beginning that this school doesn't Be aware that there are many have disciplined yourself to thinkreasons these schools do not ing of an alternative, you can conaccept ehildren, including giving vey very clearly to the child that preferences to siblings of existing this is an experiment. If you go, wonderful; if you pupils, needing a balance of boys and girls, or adhering to municipal

don't, we have another alternative. It's not like there is a void outside. This will also make the child feel certain oumber of pupils from the easier about going to the interview

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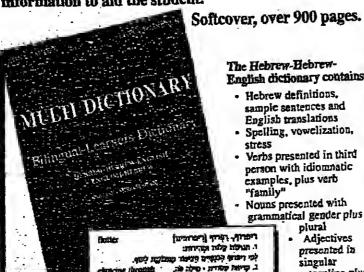
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BUSINESS & FINANCE

Wednesday, January 8, 1997

Gov't sets new taxes to pay for budget cuts

PRIME Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and Finance Minister Dan Meridor have agreed to three new tax proposals to make up a NIS 270 million shortfall in the

1997 budget cut proposals.
The changes would fall on car air conditioners, VAT on minivans and diesel prices. The existing exemption from purchase tax on air conditioners will be lifted. The imposition of a 30 percent tax would raise an estimated NIS 120m. The vehicles affected will be those which are imported without air conditioning systems and therefore have them fitted in Israel. This is likely to be implemented immedi-

ately.

Jeeps and minivans would be defined as commercial vehicles for tax purposes. This change would bring in some NIS 70m. to the Treasury. The measure can only be imposed following Knesset Finance Committee approval.

When gasoline prices were substantially increased two weeks ago, it was decided to reduce the cost of diesel at the same time. Now that decision will be reversed, with the pump price for diesel increasing, raising NIS 80m. The Finance Ministry said this will not lead to increases in public transportation prices.

The earlier decision to also lower domestic fuel prices remains in force, the Treasury saying it does oot want to hit the socially weak,

These latest proposals are being iotroduced following the Knesset's rejection of the plan to cancel half a tax credit point for married, working women. The Treasury had hoped this would raise NIS 270m., but an immediate outery, from politicians, the Histadrut, social groups and the public at large, including heightened strike action, led to its rejecfion by MKs.

10 a statement, the Treasury said that, ooce implemented, these proposals will allow for the budget deficit to reach 2.8% of GDP, which was the government's target for January 1. If all elements of the budget are successfully implemented, the government will have succeeded in its aim of reducing the 1997 budget by NIS 7.2 bil-lion. However, Netanyahu has had to concede that he was unable to fulfill his promise that there would be no increases in taxation, these final measures increasing demands on the taxpayer.



Among proposals: Private buses, gas-station deregulation, 3rd cell-phone operator THE cabinet is scheduled to meet this afternoon to **DAVID HARRIS** discuss a long-awaited Treasury-prepared blueprint for accelerated deregulation and demonopohandled by companies operating at arm's length from the local authorities. This is likely to pave the lization across the public sector.

for structural reforms today

Gov't to discuss blueprint

At the center of the plan are the transport, television, water, construction, fuel, and agriculture sec-

On his election, Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu said he wanted the structural changes in the economy m be crystallized within the first 100 days of the new government. While failing to meet this deadline, senior Treasury civil servants have now produced a 36-page document which covers many sectors of the economy.
Included in the recommendations are:

Opening public transport to competition, leading to a likely end of Egged and Dan's monopoly. At least three intercity routes will be offered for tender by the end of July. Transport to and within Modi'in will be open to competition. The sector will be opened to competition route by route, with much of the government's existing NIS I million subsidy likely to remain.

 Satellite television will be introduced into Israel via Amos I, launched last year. The system operated will be similar to that currently available in Britain, using a scheme whereby customers will have a choice as to which channels they subscribe, Management of municipal water supplies will be

WHY TRUST HIM ON

THE ECONOMY AFTER

22 TAX RISES?

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH.

a series of poster wars between Britain's two leading political parties.

John Prescott, deputy leader of the British Labor party (right), and shadow Treasury spokesman

Alastair Darling unveil a poster attacking the Conservative Party yesterday in the latest salvo in

Insurers: We'll cut premiums

only if car thefts decline

600 and NIS 800 on every insured

car, said Borowitz. He urged the

public to pressure the government

Meanwhile, the Palestinian

Authority has indirectly pro-

posed, through the IDF, to com-

pensate insurance companies for

stolen ears on condition that the

vehicles are registered in Gaza.

But the association is not enthusi-

not intend to talk with people who

steal cars," said Shmuel Golomb.

THE government narrowly passed a

law late Monday night to set definite

limits to the deficit in each of the

next five years, thanks to the assis-

tance of Meretz MK Avraham Poraz.

with Poraz casting the decisive vote

with the government. Had he joined

his fellow opposition MKs in voting

against, the bill would have failed.

considered the law a useful tool to

further the critical end of deficit

reduction. This goal is too important

to fall victim to coalition-opposition

The bill, which is meant to send

power struggles, he said.

Poraz explained afterwards that he

The law passed by a vote of 7-6,

"We have not spoken to and do

to solve the problem.

astic about the idea.

way for privately owned local water companies. · Licensing an additional company to run a cellular telephone service. The tender must be advertised no later than July 1. This recommendation is separate from those recently published by the Waxe-Brodet-Leon Committee on opening the telecommunications industry to further competi-

 Establishing a committee which will recommend ways to speed up the opening of new gasoline sta-tions. A second committee will look for methods to bring an end m the domination of the market by a handful of companies.

· Examining ways to end Agrexco's monopoly. including allowing producers to export directly. Additional measures to be considered include: The creation of a public committee to examine the possible raising of the pension age for men and

 The creation of an inter-departmental committee to prepare the groundwork for legislation for a pilot project to establish a private employment service. Most of the proposals do not require legislation, with cabinet agreement sufficing. All ministers have been consulted on issues over which they

have direct control. Only four or five of the recommendations will require Knesset approval, but Treasury sources say this will come within a mat-

The push for all these proposals comes from within this building [the Treasury]," said a senior, non-political appointee Treasury official yesterday. These measures were in the process of being devised before the election. It doesn't matter whether [Avraham] Baiga Shohat or Dan Meridor is the minister."

The Histadrut has made it clear it will step up its protest action if the changes are perceived to affect workers' rights. Organization chairman MK Amir Peretz met Finance Minister Meridor last night to hear at first hand about the planned reforms. "We anticipate strikes," said the ministry source.

Treasury officials say the document does not contain a full list of the government's intended reforms, which will come throughout the next four years. Notable absences from the report are reforms to the Israel Electric Corporation and the Israel Lands Administration.

While Netarryahu and Meridor have had a partial success in implementing the budget cut, and are now about to formulate plans for structural reforms and privatization, they have not yet completed work on the Brodet Committee's recommendations on reforming the capital markets.

Water

for

industry

to cost

32% more

EVELYN GORDON

THE Knesset Finance Committee

yesterday approved a 32 percent

increase in the price industrial companies pay for water, but spread the

increase over two years rather than the seven months the government

The government had wanted

industrial water prices to be raised

by 15% immediately and another

18% on August 1. However, the

launched a vigorous campaign

against the increase, saying it would

Association director-general Yoram Belizovsky said the increase

would cost companies NIS 45 mil-

lion this year, on top of the NIS

130m. they paid for water in 1996.

Furthermore, be said, industries

already pay 18.6% more for water

than do farmers; the proposed

increase would widen the gap to

The committee eventually decid-

ed on a compromise whereby the

increase would be approved, but

over a longer time period to make it

easier for companies to adjust.

Under the plan approved yesterday, prices will rise 12% immediately,

10% next January 1 and another

10% on January 1, 1999. As a result

of the immediate increase, water for

industrial use will now cost 96.8

The price of purified sewage

water will be set at 20% below that

agorot per cubic meter.

be illogical and crippling.

Association

had wanted.

Manufacturers'

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Some 240 technological start-up companies were launched last year, according to the Chief Scientist's Office. Of these, 21 percent deal with communications, and 35% medical instrumentation. David Harris

Work will continue on a bill to restrict long-term supply contracts between gas companies and gas stations, the Knesset Economics Committee decided yesterday. The bill had passed its first reading in the previous Knesset, but the new Knesset is under no obligation to pick up where its predecessor left off. However, the committee said this bill was an important part of attempts m reform the fuel market, and therefore work should continue. Evelyn Gordon

A company's managing director will be forbidden to serve as chairman of its board, according m a bill approved by the Knesset Law Committee yesterday. The bill also states that the managing director cannot be on the board at all unless this is explicitly permitted by the company's articles of incorporation. Finally, it allows companies to institute different methods of electing the chairman of the board, such as by vote of a general assembly of shareholders. The default method, however, will continue to be election by the board. Evelyn Gordon

'96 withdrawals from provident funds at NIS 12b.

THE commercial banks' provident funds suffered redemptions of NIS 11.93 billion in 1996, reflecting the public's preference to invest in saving plans on the one hand, and a general increase in private consumption on the other, the Treasury reported yesterday,

After 11 successive months in which the provident funds suffered withdrawals, the funds registered deposits of NIS 397.37 million in December. The funds suffered redemptions of NIS 381.97m. in November and NIS 1.06b. in

Analyst said the large amount of withdrawals in 1996 reflected the public's preference to invest in saving plans and shekel-linked short term deposits. The rest of the money was spent on consumption. Bank saving programs attracted

deposits of NIS 5.36b. in 1996. Last month the programs accumulated deposits of NIS 161m., compared with withdrawals of NIS 201m. in November and a positive accumulation of NIS 235m. in

In December, index-linked plans attracted NIS 294m., compared with withdrawals of NIS 33m. in November. Foreign currency linked plans registered with-drawals of NIS 133m., compared with NIS 169m. in November and NIS 109m. in October,

Training funds attracted NIS 236.39m. since the start of the year. In December the training funds attracted NIS 316m. compared with NIS 54m. in November and NIS 49m. in October. The funds suffered withdrawals of NIS 140.3m. in September.

Tadiran wins \$35m. deal to supply Spanish army

TADIRAN Communications and Systems has won a \$35 million contract to supply military communications equipment to the Spanish army, executives of the Holonbased company said yesterday.

The equipment is meant to integrate the different levels of command and control and includes communications and navigation terminals and integrated tactical systems.

Hezi Hermoni, Tadiran president and chief executive officer, said the order is part of an multi-year acquisition program by the Spanish army. He said Tadiran will begin supplying the equipment this year until 2002 in cooperation with Amper, a company partially owned by the Spanish government.

Tadiran executives said the company competed against such communications giants as the French Alcatel, the British Thompson and the Danish company Terma. The bidding process, which included tests of the equipment took four

Hermoni said the Spanish con- the US army.

tract is a watershed in Tadiran's efforts in Western Europe. "Until two years ago, the European market was dead," he said. "From 1994, Western Europe became our target. We believe this came about because of the fruits of the peace

Lior Almagor, Tadiran Com.'s vice president for marketing, said the Western European market remains tough, with a high degree of protection from foreign companies. He said the company sells to 15 countries in Europe, including Austria, Denmark, Germany, Spain and Poland.

We estimate that we have captured 12-13 percent of the market in tactical communications equipment," Almagor said. "If you remove the American market, it's about 20 percent."

Executives said that exports account for 80% of Tadiran's sales, which was \$105 million in 1996. The company has a US subsidiary Tallcom, based in Florida, which sells communications equipment to

Dassault, Aerospatiale to merge

PARIS (Reuter) - The French government yesterday confirmed that state-owned Aerospatiale and combat plane maker Dassault Aviation would merge into a single company and would have a single supervisory board and executive committee. President Jacques Chirac announced a plan to create a single French

aircraft manufacturer out of Aerospatiale and Dassault in February last year as part of a restructuring of the defence industry around a few national champions. The link up will be through a merger of the two companies," the finance ministry said in a statement.

SHAREMONEY MARKERS

Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (11.9.96).

ournber of cars ever stolen in one general manager of the associaform of spare parts, said month in Israel," said Borowitz, Borowitz. The cost of developing a netadding that the number of stolen About 90% of all retrieved work and data base to mark the vehicles are found over the Green cars has increased each month Line or nearby. Most of the vehisince April. vehicle parts is estimated at about NIS 900m. The association has Insurance companies' commitcles stoleo in 1996 were from the agreed to finance about NIS ment to reduce premiums would central region, from Netanya to lead to a savings of between NIS 750m. of this sum. **Deficit reduction law** DON'T BE LEFT OUT! passes narrowly in Knesset If you don't have e-mail

THE insurance sector would be

willing to reduce premiums by

15% to 20% if the oumber of

annual car thefts would fall to

25,000, the average figure for

1993-94, Insurance Companies

Association chairman itamar

Car thefts increased to a new

record high of 36,732 in 1996

compared with 33,050 in the pre-

vious year. About 130 cars are

stolen each day, of which only

In December 4,028 vehicles

were stolen, up 16.2% from November. This is the highest

Borowitz said yesterday.

30% are recovered.

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be cut this year by 16 percent, outgoing company director-general Yitzhak Kaul announced yester-

Most of the cuts will affect infra-

Kaul said that the cut resulted from the "new reality" in which Bezeq faces compedition from the

investors the message that the government is serious about deficit reduction, states that the 1997 deficit may not exceed 2.8% of gross domestic product. The limit would then decrease to 2.4% of GDP in 1998, 2% in 1999. 1.75% in 2000 and 1.5% in 2001. The deficit was 3.2% in 1995 and

According to the association the

high number of car thefts last year

resulted in damages of about NIS

1.5 billion, while insurance firms

incurred losses of about NIS 1b.

The trade deficit resulting from

the need to replace these cars with

imported vehicles reached NIS

The association and the

Transportation Ministry are

working on a program to mark popular vehicle parts, in an

attempt to reduce car thefts and

prevent trade in stolen spare

parts. About 60% of all stolen

cars return to the market in the

4.7% in 1996. However, passage of the law is no

guarantee that the deficit really will be reduced in this fashion, as it can always be amended. This is what the Labor government did in 1994 when it saw it would not be able to meet the largets specified in an earlier law.

Bezeq investments slashed by 16%

EVELYN GORDON

BEZEO'S investment budget will

structure and communications equipment; installation of phone lines will not be affected, but the company will carry out efficiency measures and use existing stocks

This reality, said Kaul, requires the company to revise its budget. Kaul. who in March is leaving to head Clal-Israel, said Bezeq will have to go into new fields, including local area networks and lines for Internet, financial services and computer communications.

These profits will balance losses caused by competition. If Bezeq itself will not be allowed to enter these markets directly, it would do so via subsidiaries, he said. The company must examine every investment according to the critetion of financial benefit, he added.

of pure water to encourage its use. Teledata receives \$7.2m. order JENNIFER FRIEDLIN

TELEDATA Communication Ltd. of Herzliya yesterday announced that it received a \$7.2 million order for its CT Loop Pair Gain System from an undisclosed European eustomer.

The CT Loop is a digital transmission system used by telecom company's m connect 10-60 subscribers to an exchange through a single pair of copper wires. This enables companies to maximize the use of their existing access network, the portion of the telephone network that connects subscribers to the local exchange, without having to make heavy investments in additional infrastructure.

Such technology is especially critical when population growth or urbanization overtakes the network's capacity and, in rural areas, where weather or terrain difficulties necessitate custom-tailored phone networks. Once described as a "fallen

angel," investors are now showing renewed faith in the company. After trading in the \$6 range one year ago, Teledata's Nasdaq-traded shares have steadily risen. Yesterday, Teledata traded at \$24.25 in early morning trading.

In addition to the Israeli market. Teledata has marketing, sales and support affiliates in Australia.

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S. African rand
Belgian franc (10)
Austrian schilling (10)
Italian fira (1000)
Jordanian dinar
Esyptian pound 5<u>2</u>7 *These rates vary according to bank. "Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUM! Germany. Greece and the UK.

....NIS 5.4921 +0.09%

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INT'L STOCK

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Key Representative Rates

US Dollar NIS 3.2440 -0.10%

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET

ROBERT DANIEL



Maof index

237.12

+1.88%

SHARES, continuing their run toward a three-year high, jumped for a fifth day as the Finance Ministry reported that partly taxexempt savings funds saw net deposits from investors in Nearly seven issues advanced for December after withdrawals in

November and October. The indexes were led higher by the Elbit companies, bolding companies Koor Industries and Clal Electronics, developers Industrial Buildings Buildings and El-Rov Israel, Kitan, Polgat and Tcam

The Two-Sided Index gained 1.84 percent to 229.15, while the Maof Index added 1.88% to 237.12. The Maof was last this

high oo February 16, 1994, when

it closed at 238.8. Across the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange, NIS 194.2 million of shares traded, nearly 2.5 times last month's average daily trading.

every one that declined. Bezeq was the most active issue, falling 1% oo NIS 10.3m. of shares traded. It said it would cut its 1997 investment budget 16% because of competition.

Elbit Medical Imaging Ltd. saw its shares jump 8% to NIS 15.8. Elscint Ltd., of which Elbit owns 55%, said it was cleared to sell certain medical equipment in (Bloomberg)

London shares weaken

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

LONDON (Reuter) - British shares ended mostly weaker yesterday, dragged down by falling bonds, a weaker performance on Wall Street and a call for higher interest rates from the Bank of

England's deputy governor.
The FTSE 100 index closed 27.7 points down at 4,078.8, just above the day's low, with decliners in a

seven-to-two majority.

FRANKFURT - Shares ended. listless bourse trade slightly ahead and dealers said there was disappointmeot that Wall Street's overnight close failed to add much

to last week's strong rally.

The DAX-30 index of leading German shares closed just 4.81 points up at 2,886.13. The IBIS DAX index later ended all-day electronic dealings at 2,876.34

PARIS - Shares closed easier in line with Wall Street but remained above the 2,300 level after having pushed the CAC-40 index to a fresh year high at 2,315.25. The blue-chip CAC-40 index closed down 4.98 points at 2,301.69. ZURICH - Shares closed little

changed in fairly active trade and dealers said the market was likely to move sideways during the next

The broad SPI closed 4.41 points higher at 2,510.63.

TOKYO - The Japanese stock market's key index closed below the key psychological level of 19,000. Despite the yen's recovery and Wall Street's rally to all-time highs overnight, the market was beset by lingering worries over the

The benchmark Nikkei 225 average plunged 549.81 points or 2.83 percent to close at 18,896.19. It was the lowest close since December 5, 1995.

SYDNEY - The share market closed lower as sentiment softened slightly and the gold sector dived more than 3% in response to the

falling price of bullion.

The All Ordinaries index lost 9.1 points to 2,400.7.

JOHANNESBURG - A jump in futures contracts propelled spot industrial shares higher in afternoon trading after a slow but firmer start following fresh highs on Wall Street overnight.

The industrial index surged 61.7 points to close at 7,944.2.

The gold index finished off 9.9 points at 1,412.3, a fresh year low.

The all-share spot index ended up 37.9 points at 6,614.1.

Dow hits record 6,600 WALL STREET REPORT

NEW YORK (AP) - The Dow Jones industrial average closed above 6,600 for the first time as stocks rallied back yesterday from steep losses spurred by the worsening interest rate backdrop in the

bond market.

The Dow erased a 55-point slide to finish with a gain of 33.48 points and closed at 6,600.66. On Monday, the blue-chip barometer sumbled to a record high after surrendering a 75-point gain and dipping into negative territory.

CRASHES

(Continued from Page 1)
The youth's age, the fact that he worked in the market, had no license and needed his employer's keys and therefore his permission to use the car, pointed to an accident. But the employer, who also was investigated, denied that he gave permission to use the car. Eyewitnesses said the youth

seemed to be stunned. When he got out, he grabbed his head in both hands as though something happened that he did not plan," said Yehoshua Salem, m his shop opposite the Haba Burekas store. "But who can be sure? He came out straight towards the market. Even a child who plays with a car knows how to turn right and left."

Salem knew the boy well because he had worked in the market for three years and delivered fruit and vegetables to Salem's shop. His wife said the boy appeared suspicious. He was "tall for his age and his manner was aggressive." she said. Neither of them knew his name.

There are many school-age West Bank children working in the market to whom no one pays much

attention. They are sent off to work in Israel by their parents because a child under 16 does not require his own ID and it is easier for him than for an adult to get through roadblocks at the entrance

to Jerusalem.

They work six hours a day, missing school three days a week. Mahane Yehuda has been a popular venue for terrorist attacks in the past and there have been warnings of possible attacks following Hamas and Islamic Jihad threats to avenge the shooting attack by a religious extremist in Hebron's vegetable market last week. This week is also the anniversary of the assassination of master bomber Yihye The Engineer Ayyash in

Gaza last year.
One vegetable stall owner said that he had but the youth once for expressing support of Ayyash. Others said that was not true.

"What did he know? He was just a kid," said Tal Calderon, who runs a bakery opposite the shop where the youth worked. The kids in his shop nodded and kept right

on working.

Heidi J. Gleit contributed to this report.

a fund until all valid claims by

heirs or others had been ruled out

Burg later reacted angrily to the oews agency reports. "It's a shame that the Swiss are playing again with words," he said. "They

are attacking marginal issues and

disregarding the central points. I

am amazed that they are trying to

buy us with money that was never

for each account.

theirs."

The bankers' association also said no money could be used from

(Continued from Page 1) assets sent to Switzerland by Jews attempting to escape the Nazis.

The cabinet said it wanted dormant bank accounts totalling some SF 40m. (\$29.5m.) to be "put to a proper use."

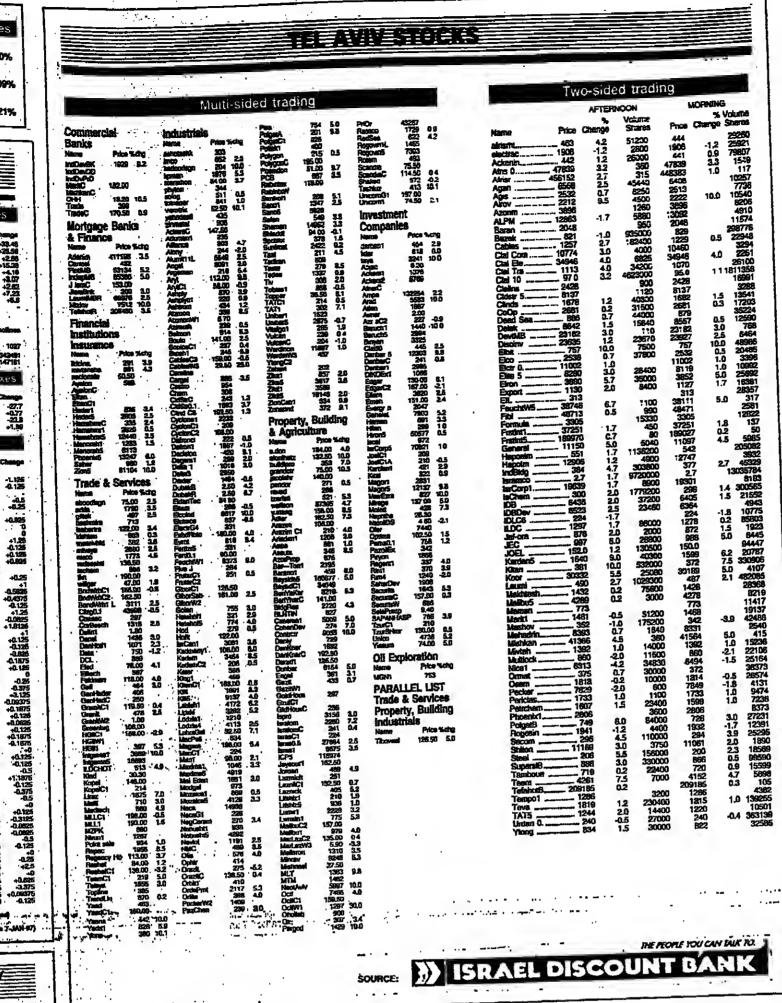
Switzerland's two biggest newspapers, the conservative Blick and the liberal Tages Anzeiger both urged the government in editorials yesterday to

make a conciliatory gesture. Bern's top official handling the issue said the government expected to decide by the end of January whether to create a memorial fund.

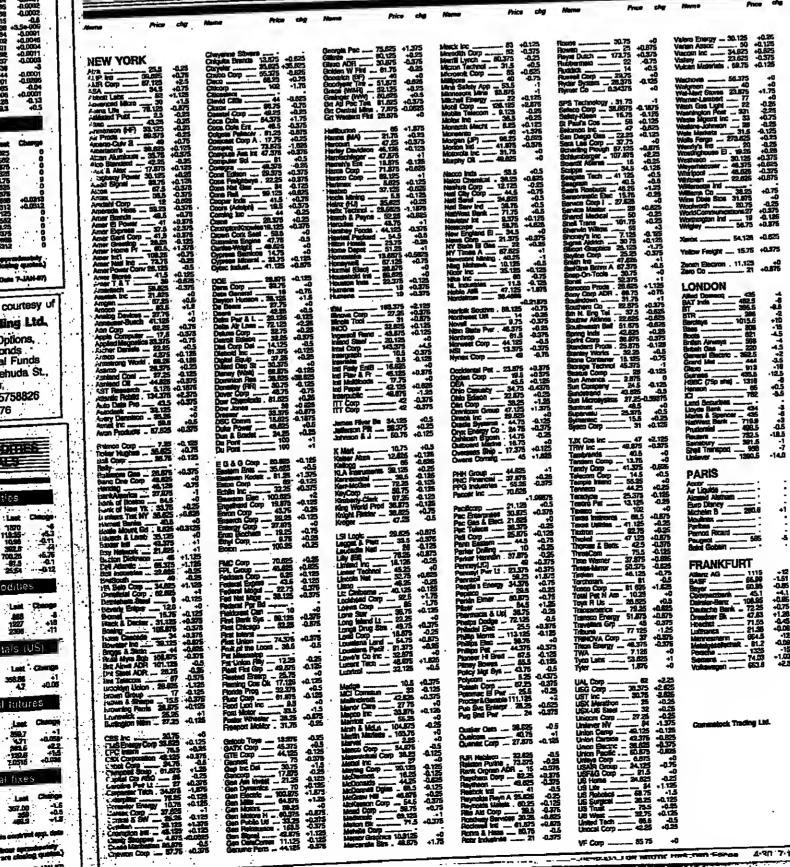
The Swiss bankers' association hailed the proposal for talks but said a joint commission of Jewish groups and Swiss banks headed by former US central bank chief Paul Volcker should first rule on how much of the money stemmed from Jews killed in the Holocaust - a conclusion expected in mid-

Burg said it was "important to remember that no one had asked the Swiss to set up a compensation fund. We only want what belongs to us and nothing further," he said. The reaction of the stock market

was an indication of the Swiss people's lack of confidence in their government, he said, adding that it was likely to continue in this vein unless there was a retraction of the former president's remarks. 1998. remarks.



INT'L MONEY S-tage CanDir: 5,5855 5,6562 8,673 8,562d 7,0525 1,9625 1,9625 2,0512 2,1562 2,1 Foreign financial data courtesy of CommStock Trading Ltd. Futures, Options, Stocks; Bonds and Mutual Funds 34 Ben Yehuda St. Jerusalem. Tel. 02-244963, 03-5758826 Fax. 02-244876 INTEL COMMODITIES AND METALS



INTERNATIONAL STOCK PRICE

MANCHESTER (Reuter) - Tonenham has an immediate opportunity to avenge itsr third-round English F.A. Cup defeat at Manchester United when Alex Ferguson's men visit White Hart Lane for a Premier League match on Sunday. But even a convincing victory over the F.A. Cup holders mel league champions will do nothing to disguise the fact that, to all intents and purposes, Tottenham's season ended when the referee blew the final whistle on their 2-0 defeat at Old

Trafford on Sunday. all that Tottenham have left to play for -- with Some months of the season remaining - is a change of finishing high enough to secure a place in Europe next season. It is a poor ambition for one of the traditional giants of the English game who seem to have sacrificed their style and flair for organization and workrate under manager Genty Francis - and have still got nowhere. What is even harder to bear for the Tonenham

Spurs left to pick up crumbs again Chairman Alan Sugar, the man Venables

in "Tottenham-style" players such as Dennis Bergkamp and Patrick Vieira and are high in the table after seemingly ditching their old pragmatic approach under oew French coach Arsene Wenger for a much more expansive style which had been the hallmark of Topeoham for

But the feeling of under-achievement is nothing new for Tottenham's long-suffering fans who seem to be involved in a season of transition

When Terry Venables joined Tottenham as manager in 1987 he spoke of building a "Liverpoollike dynasty" with a title in three seasons' time. He was gone six years later, without that title. though he did bring the F.A. Cup back to White

brought in to save Tottenham from bankruptcy in 1991 and who sacked Venables two years later, said earlier this season that Tonenham would be champions in three years' time. But Sugar, one of the richest mee in Britain and Francis, his manager, have failed to sign the top-class players needed for an assault on the title, which Tottenham last won in 1961 when they became the first English club this century to win the Cup

and League double. Although Tottenham recently signed defender John Scales for £2.6 million from Liverpool and spent £2m on 20-year-old striker Steffen Iverseo from Rosenborg, its recent acquisitions have not been in the same class as, for example, Paul Caproigne hibrgen

Klinsmann or Ossie Ardiles. Scales was in the reserves at Liverpool, while Ruel Fox and Andy Sioton were both out of favor at Newcastle and Sheffield Wednesday before moving to White Hart Lane.

Although Tottenham was decimated by illness and injury in the run-up to Sunday's match, the fact that Francis had to play two 19-year-olds one making his debut — against one of the toughest defenses in the League, emphasized the lack of a strong pool of players at Torrenham, an absolute necessity for a club bidding for honors. Listening to Francis, it is easy for a Tottenham fan to be lulled into a false sense of belief. "We are joint eighth in the Premier League, our 6-Lasting at 1 di

were aberrations, our season is not over, we can finish high enough for a place in Europe," was his message after the Cup defeat.

But the reality is somewhat different. Manchester United and Tottenham have for decades been regarded as the glamor clubs of English soccer. Tottenham was the first English side to wio a European tropby when it lifted the Cup Winners' Cup in 1963. United became England's first European champions with their famous victory over Bentica five years later. Both have won the double and they are the two most successful clubs in the 126-year history of the F.A. Cup with United having won the trophy nine times and Tomenham eight.

In a new effort to restore their sagging for-tunes, Tottenham last night signed Swiss interna-tional defender Ramon Vega from Cagliari. Vega, 25, signed a four-year contract with the

faritiful is that arch-rivals Arsenal has invested Niekro elected to Hall; Sutton, Perez fall short

(198 YORK (AP) — Just like one of his i moddeball pitches. Phil pierce Buttered into the Hall of

(A)/h., who missed on his first tries, made it Monday. The way inuclifeballer to win 300 games, he was the lone player

"Well, sometimes you wonder." Michael said at Atlanta-Fulton Trans Stadium, "I thought someby it is as going to come."

(ivel to, the top vote-gener last car when no one was elected. and regard on 380 of the 473 balof Fright 80.34 percent of the old pushly above the required 75

percept. The had a dream. I've had my menumares," Niekro said. Con Sation, another 300-game whener, (all nine votes short of the 355 seeded. Former slugger Tony Here missed by 43 in voting by the Baseball Writers' Association

Vielire, 318-274 in 24 seasons mostly with the Braves, will join oliever Hoyt Wilhelm as the preon hent knuckleballers in the Hall objective is enshrined as the 229th ಉತಿಕಾಗಿಲ್ಲ

Melito said he spent Monday at his harme in Flowery Branch. Deorgin, working around the house, taking out the garbage and going to the bank. "I just tried to have riv mind off of it." he said. Hickro got 68.3 percent of the ware last year. He received 65.7

eterpejenships.

percent in his first year of eligibility in 1993, followed by 60 percent in 1994 and 62.1 percent in

Billy Williams was the last player who had to wait as long as Niekro to make it the Hall. The former Chicago Cubs star was elected on his sixth try in 1987.

Niekro had a 3.35 ERA in 24 seasons. He pitched two seasons in Milwaukee, moved with the team to Atlanta from 1966-1983. and later pitched for the New York Yankees, Cleveland and Toronto. He made a final, farewell appearance for Atlanta in 1987.

Niekro said his plaque at the Hail will show an Atlanta cap. A five-time All-Star and a fivetime Gold Glove winner, Niekro

ranks 14th on baseball's career win list and is eighth in strikeouts (3.342). He is one of just 20 pitchers to win 300 games and com-bined with his brother, knuckleballer Joe, to win 537 games most in major league history by

Niekro holds virtually all of Atlanta's pitching records, including wins (266), games (689) and shutouts (43). He also pitched the first no-hitter in Atlanta history, in 1973, against San Diego. Despite all of his wins, many of

his detractors countered that Niekro was more a testament to longevity rather than excellence. He never won a Cy Young and finished in the top five in voting for

the award just three times. He had a total of three 20-win seasons. Niekro ranks fifth on the career

list of losses and never won a postseason game. Then again, the Braves only made it to the playoffs twice during his tenure.

After retiring as a player, Niekro managed and coached in the Braves organization. He is about to start his fourth season managing the women's Silver Bullets team. Sutton missed the Hall on his

fourth try. He was 324-256 with a 3.26 ERA in 23 seasons, most of them with the Los Angeles Dodgers. Like Niekro. Sutton never won a Cy Young and had only one 20-win season.

"There's a guy who won 324 games, more than I have," Niekro said. "You figure that one out."

Perez, on the ballot for the sixth time, ranks 16th on baseball's career RBIs list with 1,652 every player ahead of him is already in the Hall.

Ron Santo finished fourth with 186 votes, followed by Jim Rice with 178 and Steve Garvey with 167. Among the eight first-time candidates. Dave Parker got the most votes with 83. Joe Torre (105 votes) and Dick

Allen (79) were on the ballot for the 15th and fioal time. Ken Griffey and Bobby Boods were among the players who did not receive 5 percent of the vote and were eliminated from future con-



THUMBS UP - Magic Johnson smiles for the media after arriving in Jakarta to play a number of exhibition matches.

Seles out of Australian Open

alwantees from the upcoming Australian Open tennis

Seles, who has a 28-0 record in Australia and has won the Australian Open four times, advised tournament director Paul McNamee yesterday that a broken inger will prevent her from playing Down Under.

"I want so much to return to Australia, where I have so many happy memories and good friends." Seles said in a stalement issued by her management group in the US. "All I can do is look forward to 1998 with great articipation."

Beles, a left-hander who hits with two hands off to the sides, broke her right ring finger in two places to hite playing an exhibition in Slovakia last month. The damaged the finger tip and the knuckle.

The injury forced Yugoslav-born Seles to last week withdraw from the Sydney International, which is being played at White City.

Seles won the Australian Open in 1991, 1992 and 1003 before missing the event the next two years

MELECURNE (AP) - Defending women's singles after being stabbed during a tournament in Hamburg. JAKARTA (AP) - Magic Johnson arrived Minister Suyudi denied that claim Monday and virus.

She returned to win the Australian title last year. Her absence will be a considerable blow for Open organizers as it follows the decision of fellow major drawcard Andre Agassi to bypass the event to takes a break before starting his planned grueling 1997 play-

Australian Jason Stolteoberg and Jana Novotna of the Czech Republic also will miss the tournament, with American Todd Martin a doubtful starter. The broken finger is the latest in a series of injuries

which have plagued Seles since she returned to competitive tennis in August, 1995. She was slowed by tendinitis in her knees in 1995

and suffered a muscle tear in her left shoulder early last year. The shoulder injury forced her to miss several tournaments and hampered her ability to serve throughout 1996.

The Australian Open, the first of the year's four Grand Slam tournaments, begins its two-week run on Monday in Melbourne. Utah by beating the Jazz 102-89

Amid health ministry warnings, Magic Johnson arrives in Indonesia

health minister said the public had to be warned that the former NBA star could spread the virus that causes AIDS.

Johnson's touring all-star team is scheduled to play games today and tomorrow to raise money for AIDS campaigns in Indooesia, where the World Health Organization says some 50,000 people are infected with the

While Johnson said he was denied an Indonesian visa in February 1995, Health

this week.

"But the society should get information oo the spread of HIV so that this HIV-positive athlete will not spread the disease," Suyudi said. Indonesia bas no policy against admitting HIV-positive visitors, but officials can deny a visa to anyone carrying a contagious dis-

Johnson, 38, first retired from the Los Angeles Lakers just before the 1991-92 season after learning he had tested positive for the

Pippen, Jordan lead Bulls past Jazz

1992-93 season but quit again during the exhibition season after several players expressed concerns about playing with him. After considering a comeback on several occasions, Johnson finally returned last

January. He played in 32 games, helping the Lakers to a 53-29 record. He retired for good after the playoffs. Johnson is a three-time NBA most valuable

player who led the Lakers to five league championships during the 1980s.

Rangers extend home unbeaten streak

TEW YORK (AP) - Goaltender ons, some of the spectacular vari- Lightning. *!!ke Richter extended his unbeaton street to 15 games and the New York Rangers their home unbeaten stread to seven with a 2-2 tie. against the Colorado Avalanche on Flouday night.

After giving up two power-play gails to the Avalanche on their first five shots. Richter stopped the next 35 in a brilliant goaltending banle with Colorado's Patrick Roy. Richter stopped 18 alone io the third period when Colorado had three of its eight power-play

Roy made 30 saves for the gerending Stanley Cup champi-

Lightning 4, Senators 3 Defenseman Bill Houlder scored his first goal of the season as Tampa Bay won on the road.

Alexander Selivanov, Daymond Langkow and Shawn Burr also scored for Tampa Bay, which withstood a Senators' rally after taking a 4-1 lead on Houlder's goal early in the third period. Alexei Yashin, Lance Pitlick and

Ottawa Rick Tabaracci, making his 19th start in Tampa Bey's last 20 games, stopped 20 shots for the

Randy Cunneyworth scored for

Canadiens 5, Whalers 4 Vinceot Damphousse scored three goals for host Montreal. including the game-winner with 3.4 seconds left in regulation. Only games scheduled.

CHICAGO (AP) - Scottie which is 6-7 since opening the the Lakers' six-game winning Pippeo scored 24 points and season 17-2. Michael Jordan 23 as the Chicago Bulls avenged a November loss to

Monday night. Dennis Rodman added 16 rebounds, and Toni Kukoc and Steve Kerr had strong performances off the beach for the Bulls, who are 12-1 overall and 9-0 at home since December 11. Chicago's 29-4 record is the

NBA's best. Karl Malone scored 27 points and John Stockton 18 for Utah,

The Bulls started the season with 12 consecutive victories before losing 105-100 at Utah. But as was the case in 1995-96 - when payback was a huge part of the Bulls' league-record 72win season - Chicago got

Trail Blazers 88, Lakers 84 Kenny Anderson, struggling through a miserable offensive game, scored host Portland's final eight points as the Trail Blazers won their fifth straight and ended

revenge.

streak.

In a rough, foul-filled battle against Arvydas Sabonis, Shaqoille O'Neal bad 34 points and 12 rebounds for the Lakers. But he was just 4-for-14 from the free throw line and missed an 8footer, only his second missed field goal of the second half, with 1:13 to go and the game tied at

Sabonis led the Blazers with 24 points. Anderson scored 15, but was just 3-for-11 from the field before his late outburst.

Hornets 109, Warriors 101 Glen Rice scored a season-high 39 points and Anthony Mason added 27 points and 18 rebounds as Charlotte notched a road vic-

15

(0.15%)

4.14

21

Becken

Vlade Divac had 18 points and 16 rebounds for the Hornets, who made 13 of 14 free throws down the stretch and finished 36-of-40 at the foul line.

Latrell Sprewell had 26 points and seven assists for the Warriors. Joe Smith added 23 points and Mark Price had 22. Only games scheduled.

Jailed hockey coach fears for life after TV remarks

(MIGARY (AP) - The former junior bockey coach doing jail time for sexually abusing two players says his life is in danger because of comments by CBC commentator Don Cherry. Graham James, in a telephone call to the Calgary Sun, said he is

Heing in fear in after Cherry's comments Saturday night during his Coach's Corner segment of Hockey Night in Canada. An emotional Cherry, former coach of the Boston Bruins, used a derogatory term to describe James, and said the former coach

should be "drawn and quartered." dames was sentenced last week to 3 years in jail after pleading anily to two counts of sexual abose of his players. One of the play-Stalden Kennedy of the Bruins, chose to identify bimself as a initian of abuse hy James over a 12-year period beginning in 1982.

The other player chose anonymity. ismes, 43, was among the leading junior coaches in Canada, help-ing develop several correct NHL players and leading the Swift Current Broncos of the Western Hockey League to a national title io

His conviction was front-page news across Canada, and provoked demands for tighter screening of coaches, whose influence over young olayers is often powerful.

James said he and other prisoners watched Cherry in the maximam security Edmonton Institution. He said he was barraged by caterilis from inmates after Cherry's comments. "If Doo Cherry wents to get his pound of flesh he's done a good job," James said. But Cherry's ootburst created only a ripple of response from the

public, meanwhile. The network reported that as of early Monday night it had eccived only 25 calls from viewers. The oetwork's secior director communications said all the callers supported Cherry.

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MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

TOMORROW evening the Red International Music Festival opens with a gala concert in Akaba, featuring . Valery Gergiev and his orchestra and the chorus of the (Marinsky) Kirov Theater from St. Petersburg. The opening concert showcases two world premieres. Elmale by Israeli composer Oded Zehavi and

a new opus for baritone

and orchestra by Shirvani Chalayev. After that, Gergiev leads his large battery of musicians in The Polovtzian Dances from Borodin's Prince Igor, A Night on Bald Mountain by Moussorgsky, and Rimsky-Korsakov's Scheherazade (8:30). The festival then moves for three more days to Eilar. Friday evening (9), Gergiev leads Berlioz's dramatic symphony Romeo et Juliette, and Saturday night (9) is the turn of the Verdi Requieur.

Other events include an a-cappella choral program (Saturday, 11 a.m.), a chamber-music marathon (Saturday noon) - which is free to the public, and a concert by Consort of Music's Evelyn Tubb and Anthony Rooley (Friday 4:30 p.m.).

JAZZ

HELEN KAYE

SAXOPHONIST Shlomi Goldenberg and his Little Big Band join up with soul singer Elisheva Bat-Israel from Dimona for a one-time-only. evening they call The Soul of Jazz. The evening is a mix of old-time blues and soul and multimedia electronic wizardries, with Kobi Ehrlich at the piano, Alon Weissman on drums, Uri Stav on guitar, and Gilad Manor on flute. Tonight, at the Gesher Theater in Old Jaffa, at 9 p.m.

FILM

ADINA HOFFMAN

*** BREAKING THE WAVES - Danish director Lars Von Trier's English-language film provides one of the more powerful shocks in recent cinematic memory. Lyrical and ragged, ommended for children.)



Valery Gergiev conducts the Kirov (Marinsky) Theater orchestra and chorus in Akaba tomorrow.

slangy and mythic, the picture works through carefully choreographed disorientation. At dif-ferent points throughout the almost three-hourlong movie - which presents a brutal portrait of the religious and sexual suffering of an innocent young Scottish woman whose new husband is paralyzed in an oil-rig accident - various com-

parisons (to Bergman, Bertolucci, Mike Leigh and others) spring to mind. But Von Trier and director of photography Robby Muller jumble these and other influences and manage in the process to fashion a texture and pitch that are entirely their own. Moments that might seem cheap or voyeuristic in the hands of a lesser director become occasions for profound moral and visceral engagement. With the remarkable British actress Emily Watson in her first major role. (English dialogue, Hebrew subtitles. Not recommended for children.)

*** BEYOND THE CLOUDS - For all its problems, Michelangelo Antonioni's latest film (in all likelihood his last) leaves one quiet and strangely content. The icy, ominous calm of the director's earlier works has given way to something else, warmer, lighter and - almost - free. The movie consists of four short love stories, each set in a different Italian or French city. None of these episodes is remarkable in and of itself, taken together, however, the fragments form a moving chronicle of what can only be described as an elderly filmmaker's last-ditch attempt to pack in as many potent images and emotions as he can before he dies. With additional direction by Wim Wenders. John Malkovich narrates. (English, Italian and French dialogue. Hebrew and English subtitles. Not rec-

WHAT'S ON

TELEVISION

E CHANNEL 1

6:31 News in Arabic 6:45 Exercise Hour 7:00 Good Morning Israel

SEDUCATIONAL TV

8:00 Evolutionary Trends 8:30 On Second Thought 9:00 Social Sciences 9:30 English 9:45 Programs for the very young 10:15 100 Years of Zionism 11:15 Geography 11:40 Judaism 12:05 Music 12:35 Science and Technology 13:00 in the Heat of the Night 14:00 Supplies Train 14:20 Kitty Cat. and Surprise Train 14:20 Kitty Cat and Tommy 14:35 Babar the Elephant 15:00

E CHANNEL 1

15:30 Tirrytown Tales 15:50 Booly 16:00 The Mysterious Island 18:25 Zap to 3-The Mysterious Island 18:25 Zap to 3-joint broadcast with Radio 3 18:55 Zap to Basel 18:59 A New Evening 17:34 Zappy Culture - live program on culture for youth 18:15 News in English

ARABIC PROGRAMS 18:30 Four Seasons 19:00 News

HEBREW PROGRAMS
19:30 News fash 19:31 Campus Cops
20:00 News 20:45 Conference Call – talk
show with Nissim Mishal 21:20
Bodyguerds – new series about a British
eite unit that specializes in protecting
people whose lives are in danger. With
Louise Lomberd, Sean Perwee and John
Streened 22:40 Mis Man's Lond – meries Strapnet 22:10 No Man's Land - media magazine 23:00 Keeping Up Appearances 23:30 News 00:00 Verse of the Day

13:00 Open Cards 14:00 Echo Point 14:30 Tic Tac - quiz show 15:00 Yog's Gang 15:30 Dave's World 16:00 The Bold and the Beautiful 17:00 News magazine with Rafi Reshef 17:30 SporTV - for with Hall Header 17:30 Sport V - 10/ youth 18:00 Senora 19:00 Crossings -part 6 20:00 News 20:30 Wonderful World 22:00 Bat Yam-New York - new season 22:35 NYPD 00:00 News 00:05 NYPD - continued 00:35 Death Warrant (1989) - a retired New York cop returns (1999) - a retrieb New York cop results to work to hunt down e serial killer. With Kevin Klins, Susan Sarandon and Harvey Keitel. Directed by Pat O'Connor (95 mins.) 2-10 On the Edge of the Shaft of the Shelf

E JORDAN TV

14:05 The Muppet Show 14:30 Circus 15:00 French programs 16:00 Earth Revealed 16:30 Bizzard Island 17:00 News flash 17:02 Kelly & Challenge – documentary 18:00 French programs 19:30 News headlines 19:35 Bakersfield PD – comedy 20:00 Challenges 21:00 NBA Baskelhall 22:00 News in English 22:25 Cobra 00:00 Hart to Hart 00:45 Who's the Boss?

WHERE TO GO

Notices in this teature are charged at NIS28.08 per line, including VAT. Insertion every day of the month costs NISS20.65 per line, including VAT, per

HEBREW UNIVERSITY, Tours of the Medit Scoous campus, in English, daily Sun.-Thut., 11 a.m. from Bronfman Reception — Centre, Sherman Administration Bidg. Buses 4a, 9, 23, 26, 28, For Into, cell 882819.

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TEL AVIV

Museums
TEL AVIV MUSEUM. Soviet Photography
from the Museum collection: Tzvi Hecker:
Sunflower; Portraits: By a group of Israeli
arists: Virtual Reality: The domestic and
realistic in contemporary Israeli art.: Face
to Face: Didactic Exhibition. New acquisition: Two Tiffany Stained Glass Windows.
MELENA RUBINSTEIN PAVILION FOR
CONTEMPORARY AHT. Shlomo BenDavid and Amon Ben-David, New works.
Hours: Weekdays 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Tue. 10
a.m.-10 p.m. Frt. 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
Meyerholf Art Education Center, Tel.
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Maskit (cnr. Scienot Hagalim), Herzfiya
Placah, 955-8472, 955-8407. Open 9 a.m. to
midnight.

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Jeruselem: Hadessah Ein Kerem (internet,
surger); obstehrics, ophthalmology, ENT);
Hadessah Mt. Scopus (orthopedics); Sheare
Zedek (pediatrics).
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Pediatric Hospital (pediatrics); Tel Aviv
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Witzo hotfines for battlered women 02-651-4111, 03-546-1133 (also in Russian), 07-637-6310, 08-855-0506 (also in Amharic). Rape Crisis Center (24 hours), Tel Aviv 523-4819, 544-9191 (men), Jerusalem 625-5558, Helfa 853-0538, Elat 633-1977.
Hadessah Medical Organization — Israel Canoer Association support service 02-624-7676).

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FIRE

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

25 An indistinct impression of

26 Cat turning up on a sea-going vessel (4)

speed (4)

DOWN · ·

2 They disapprove of one's

make-up (4) 31'm lacking lustre in

run-through (6) 4 Capacity to please (7)

5 Time to come up for discharge (4)

6 How to sing a piece written in quavers? (7)

7 A novel place in Devon (8,2) S Mandarm's coat? (6,4)

12 it does business in more than one way (6,4)

13 Uttered in a death rattle

14 Unusual gice about a good golf score (5) 15 Indicate position in field (5)

ACROSS 1 Recklees, having an indescent cocktail (10)
9 Equipment that must be regularly changed in the

car (4) 19 They're flat but suitable for 10 Minsral water for the climbers, we hear (7) Londoner (10)

11 Mongrel dog sustained by 20 Becoming a high-flier meat (6) when entering university (5,2) 12 Painstaking preparation 23 Snooker on the green? (6)

15 The very best time for feathers (7)
16 Expressions of gratifude

and dicapproval are forbidden (5) 17 Play in afternoon or the other way round (4)

18 Snick a boundary? (4) 19 Arm eupport from a weapon (5)

21 On the way to speaking French (2,5) · 22 The cover on the bed (7)

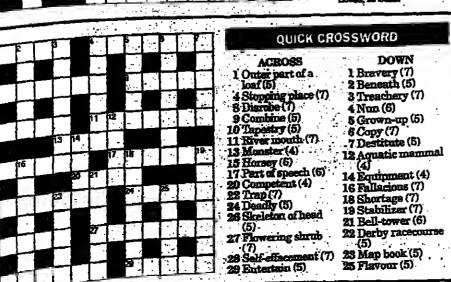
24 Disposs of at a higher price (4,2) 27 Over matey? (10)

28 To turn us m or turn us out? (4) 29 Revealing form of entertainment (10)

SOLUTIONS



Yesterday's Quick Solution ACRUSE 1 Bread, 4 Source, 3 Tearful, 16 Tramp, 11 Sats, 12 Blastar, 13 Sos, 14 Rhoa, 16 Tidy, 18 Ios, 20 Obliged, 21 Alga, 24 Swami, 25 Artwork, 26 Pallet, 27 Blear. DOWN- 1 Better, 2 Exact, 3 Deft, 6 Outcaste, 6 Reacted, 7 Expert, 8 Blobs, 13 Sanguine, 15 Holdall, 17 Gestip, 18 Ideal, 19 Hanker, 22 Loses, 23 Stab.



1 Bravery (7) 2 Beneath (5) 3 Treachery (7) 5 Grown-up (5) -7 Destitute (5)

16 Fallacious (7) 18 Shortage (7) 19 Stabilizer (7) 21 Bell-tower (6) 22 Derby racecourse

MIDDLE EAST TV

7:00 Quantum Shapping 8:00 TV Shop 14:30 The 700 Citio 15:00 Sandokan 15:25 Deathy Harvest - feature film 16:55 Family Challenge 17:40 Family Matters 18:05 Saved by the Bell 18:30 Larry King 19:30 World News Tonight 20:00 Coach 20:25 Cave's World 20:50 Newhart 21:15 Git of Love ~ £-n 23:00 CNN 00:00 TV Shop 2:00 Quantum Shopping 3:00 TV Shop

CABLE

■ ITV 3 (33)

16:00 Cartoons 18:30 Yasin and Bahaya 17:15 Discussion in Arabic 18:00 Amores 19:00 News in Arabic 19:30 Documentary in Russian 20:00 News 20:45 Are You Being Served? 21:20 Billy Joel (rpt) 23:25 Great British

■ ETV 2 (23)

15:30 Wonder Years 16:00 Everything's Open 16:30 Pillar of Fire 17:20 Trails Here and There 17:35 Phenomenal World 18:00 Welcome to France 18:30 Family Relations 19:00 Evolutionary Trends 19:30 Vis à Vis 20:00 A New Evening, with Russian subtides 20:30 Basic Arabic 21:00 Star Trek – The Next Generation 21:45 Pcp Songs 22:00 Zombit 22:30 Dr. John and band – live in concert 23:30 The Jews of North Africa in the era of colonialism

E FAMILY CHANNEL (3)

8:00 Sisters (rpt) 9:00 One Life to Live (rpt) 9:45 The Young and the Restless (rpt) 10:30 Days of Our Lives (rpt) 11:20 Perfa Negra (rpt) 12:10 Neighbors (rpt) 12:35 Dallas (rpt) 13:30 Dweebs 14:10 Rosie O'Neul 15:00 Sisters 15:50 Days Rosie O'Neuli 15:00 Sisters 15:50 Days of Our Lives 18:40 Neighbors 17:10 Dalles 18:00 One Life to Live 18:45 The Young and the Restless 19:30 Local broadcast 20:00 Perla Negra 20:50 Metrose Place 21:40 Savannah 22:30 Silk Stalkings 23:20 Night Stand with Dick Dietrick 23:45 Law and Order 00:30 Silk Stalkings 1:20 North of 60

MOVIE CHANNEL (4)

11:30 Marcellino Pane E Vino (Italian, 1991) (rpt) 13:10 Meet John Doe (1941)

– a critical look a journalism by Frank Capra. in which a penniless drifter gets caught up in a newspaper publicity stant. With Gary Cooper and Barbara Stamwyck (121 mins.) 15:10 Who's Lins is That, Anyway? 15:40 Little Noises (1991) (rpt) 17:10 Casablanca Express (1989) – spy thriller set during WWII. With Glenn Ford and Donald Pleasance (87 mins.) 18:45 Monkey Trouble (1994) (rpt) 20:25 Shattered Innocence (1988) – a Hollywood wannabe finds herself starting in a porn film (89 mins.) 22:00 Barcelona (1994) – an American sales rep living in Spain and his cousin become entangled in romance (98 mins.) 23:45 The Indian Runner (1991) – first movie cirected by Sean Penn. first movie cirected by Sean Penn.
 Two brothers reunite after many years in a small American town. (120 mins.) 1:50 a sman American rown. (120 mins.) 1:50
The Innocent (1993) (rpt) 3:50 Jungle
Warriors (1983) — seven voluptuous
models are kidnapped by a drug dealer,
but escape into the Peruvian jungle
where they fearn to survive (96 mins.)

CHILDREN (6)

6:30 Cartoons 9:00 Coure Marco 9:30, The Center of Things (not) 9:45 Pink Panther Show 10:05 The Center of Things 10:20 The Adventures of Pete and Pete 10:45 The Center of Things 11:05 Hangir with Mr. Cooper 11:35 Little University 12:00 Shesh-Tus 12:30 Hugo 13:00 Surprise Gerden 13:10 Avenger Penguins 13:40 Birnty Bill 14:00 Simba the Lion King 14:30 Coure Marco 15:00 The Center of Things 15:15 Pink Penther Show 15:50 Mirror, Mirror 16:15

JERUSALEM CINEMATHEQUE Under Western

CINEMATHEQUE Under Western Eyes 5 * Manhattan 7 * Secrets of Women 9:30 G.G. Gill Daylight Obragonhoart Offirmer Man 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 * Edited 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 * Picasso 4:45, 7:15, 8:45 * A Time to KilloSiegers 4:30, 7:15, 10 * Escape From LA. weektays 4:45, 7:15 JERUSALEM THEATER 20 Marcus St. p. 5610011 Reprond the Clouds 8.8

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Escape From L.A. weekdays 4:45, 7:15
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* Breaking the Waves 8, 9 RAV
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Reservations# 6794477 Rav-Mechar
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Diabolique@That Thing You Do@The
Truth About Cats and Dogs
@Basquist@Emma 5, 7:30, 9:45 *
Long Klas Goodnight 5, 7:30, 9:45 *
The Mirror Has Two Faces 4:45, 7:15,
9:45 MEVASSERET ZION G.G.
Gill A Time to Kill 4:45, 7:15, 10 *
Dragonheart 4:45, 7:15, 9:45
SMADAR La Ceremonie 7:30 *
Stealing Beauty 5:30
TEL AVIV
GAT The Mirror Has Two Faces 2:15,
4:45, 7:15, 9:45 GORDON
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and Sensibility 5:30 *
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Day 5, 7:30, 10 LEV Secrets and
Lies * The Pillow Book *
Stealing Beauty 11 2.m., 1, 3:15, 5:30,
7:45, 10 * Trainspotting 11 a.m., 1,
3, 10 * La Ceremonie 1, 5, 7:30, 10
* The Truth About Cats and Dogs 1,
7:30, 10 * Antonia's Line weekdays
11 a.m., 3, 5 G.G. PETER Steepers
4:30, 7:15, 10 * Jude 10 RAVCHEN* 5282288 Dizengoff Canter
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Rock 4:15, 6:45, 9:15 *
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The Center of Things 16:35 Welcom Freshmen 17:05 Little University 17:30 Shesh-Tus 18:00 Hugo 18:30 Loney Toons 18:40 Tasmania 19:00 Little Flying Bears 19:30 Ital and Friends children's talk show 20:10 Rocko's Modern Life 20:25 Married with Children 20:50 Roseanne 21:15 Lois and Clark

SECOND SHOWING (6)

22:00 Savages (1973) - an officeat look at society by Merchant-hory. A naked group of savages discovers a deserted mansion at the edge of the torest and takes it over. They undergo e process at the end of which they are "civilized." (101 mins.) 23:45 The Spiral Staircase (101 mms.) 22.43 The Spiral Staticase (1946) - dark euspense by Robert Siodmak. A mysterious killer is obsessed with temale beauty and tries to rid the world of imperfect women. With Dorothy McGuire, George Brent and Ph and Ethel Barrymore (80 mins.)

= DISCOVERY (8)

6:00 Open University - Motherhood on Hold; Evolution: Sociological Imagination - Collective Behavior 12:00 National Geographic Explorer (rpt) 13:00 Voltaire 1694-1778, part 3 (rpt) 14:00 Open University (rpt) 18:00 Open University (rpt) 20:00 United States Television, part 2 - "Realistic TV" - talk shows, court TV, police patrols, etc. 21:00 World of Geo: Forest of Dreams - the tropical rain forest of French Guiana 22:00 Heating - the connection 6:00 Open University - Motherhood on Ancisnt Healing - the connection between mind and body in health. This week's episode takes a look at ancient medical traditions - involving as herbs and acupuncture — and those of American Indians, Africans and Haitians. 23:00 United States Television, part 2 (rpt) 00:00 Open

SUPER CHANNEL

8:00 The Selina Scott Show 7:00 The Ticket 7:30 NBC Morning News 8:00 Today 10:00 Wall Street Morning Reports 11:00 European Morely Wheel 15:30 Wall Street Morning Reports 17:00 MSNBC — The Site 18:00 National Geographic 19:00 The Wine Express 19:30 The Ticket 20:00 The Seline Scott Show 21:00 Dataline Seline Scott Show 21:00 Dataline 22:00 Golf: Anderson Championship 23:00 The Tonight Show with Jay Leno 00:00 Late Night with Conan O'Bnen 1:00 Later with Greg Kinnear 1:30 NBC News 2:00 The Tonight Show with Jay Leno 3:00 MSNBC – Internight

STAR PLUS 6:00 Ciao Italia 6:30 El TV 7:00 Kate and Alie 7:30 Oprah Wintrey 8:30 Chicago Hope 9:30 Santa Barbara 10:30 Bold and Beautiful 11:00 The Reporter 11:30 Buniyaad 12:00 Home and Away 12:30 Lost In Space 13:00 Black Beauty 14:00 Kate and Alile 14:30 Ciao Italia 15:00 The Road Show 15:30 News in Hlndi 16:00 Small Wonder 18:30 The Bold and the Beautiful 17:00 Hindi program 17:30 Star News 18:00 'Alio 'Alio 18:30 Baywatch 19:30 Bold and Beautiful 20:00 Santa Barbara 21:00 Beverty Hills 90210 22:00 Picket Fences 23:00 Quincy 00:00 Oprah Wintrey 1:00 Barnaby Jones 2:00 Winfrey 1:00 Barnaby Jones 2:00 Home and Away 2:30 The Sullivans

E CHANNEL 5

6:30 Bodies in Motion 16:00 Bodies in Motion 16:30 Dakar 1997 Raily - day 4 roundup 17:00 NFL football 18:30 National League Volleyball 19:30 English Soccer Coca-Cola Cup quarter-finals -Southampton vs. Stockport, highlights 20:30 NFL football 21:30 English Soccer Coca-Cola Cup quarter finals Dakar 1997 Rally - day 5 roundup

EUROSPORT

9:30 Dakar 1997 Rally (npt) 10:00 Ski

Jumping: World Cup, Germany (rpt) 11:00 Soccer: Asian Cup (rpt) 12:30 Dakar 1997 Rally (rpt) 13:00 Adventure Sports 14:00 Motor racing: Tour from the Canary Islands 15:00 Slam: International Baskethall 16:00 Slam: International Basketball 16:00 Soccer: Asian Cup 18:00 Fishing: World Cup, Meuritlus 19:00 Martial Arts: Jiu-litsu World Championship, France 20:00 Motorsport Magazine 21:00 Driving on Ica 21:30 Soccer: Cenery Islands Tour 23:30 Dakar 1997 Raily, day 5 00:00 Triathlon: Iron Man of Hawail (rpt) 1:30 Sailing: International Grand Prix, Australia 2:00 Dakar 1997 Raily, day 5

PRIME SPORTS

2:00 Dakar 1997 Rally, day 5

6:00 Soccer: Asian Club Championships 8:30 Golt: US PGA 9:30 Asian Soccer Show 10:30 Auto Racing: Race of Champions, Spain 11:30 Futbol Mundial 12:00 Sports India 12:30 International Motorsports News 13:30 Winter Sports 14:00 Asia Sport Show 14:30 Stars on ice 15:30 Equestrian: Volvo Showjumping 16:30 Tennie: Michael Chang's Highlights at the Australian Open 18:30 Spanish Soccer League 19:00 Hong Kong to Bsijing Rally 19:30 Sports Magazine 20:00 Wislersports World Cup 23:00 ITU Triathlon, World Cup 23:00 ITU Triathlon, World Cup 23:00 Equestrian: Volvo Showjumping 00:00 Tennis: Michael Chang's Highlights (rpt) 2:00 Hong Kong to Beijing Rally 2:30 Golf: US PGA

BBC WORLD

News on the hour 6:05 State of the World Forum (rpt) 10:05 Horizon (rpt) 11:30 Film '96 (rpt) 14:15 Penorama (rpt) 15:15 World Business Report 15:30 Asla-Pacific Newshour 16:30 The Clothes Show (rpt) 17:05 State of the World Forum (rpt) 18:30 Tomorow's World (rpt) 19:30 Holiday (rpt) 22:05 Pole to Pole 23:30 Top Gear 00:00 World Business Report

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6:06 Morning Concert 9:05 Handel: Concerto Grosso in G minor op 5/8 (Bath Festival/Menuhin); Schumann: Quarte in A minor for etrings op 41/1 Quartet in A minor for etrings op 41/1 (Juillard); Beethoven; Piano concerto no 1 (Michelangeli/Vienna SO/Giulini); Shostakovich: Violin concerto no 1 (D. Olstrakh /NYPO/Milropoulos); Mozart: Symphony no 38 "Prague" (English CO/Britten); Stamitz: Clarinet concerto no 3 (Glasar/Innsbruck CO/R. Wagner) 12:00 Light Classical – wind concertos by Vivaldi, Piccini, Kalliwoda, Mozart 13:00 Ravi Shankar oleys his own vocal and Shankar pleys his own vocal and exps imental works (with Philip Glass and others) 14:06 Encore 15:00 Keys 15:00 Mozart: Symphony no 1, Sonata in G for violin and plane K301; Sonata in G for violin end plano K301; Mendelssohn: String quariet no 6 in F minor op 80 (Israel Ot); Schubert: Songs (Wunderlich, Glesen), 3 Marches Militaires for plano 4 hands 16:00 Chopln: Barcarolte op 60 (Rubinstein); Fauré, Hahn, Pleme: 3 Songs (Fischer-Dieskau, Höll); Fauré; Sonata in A for violin and plano op 13 (Mintz, Bronfman); Clara Schumann; Sonata In A for violin and piano op 13 (Mintz, Brontman); Clara Schumann: Plano trio in G minor op 17 (Dartington); Suk: Sereneds for Strings in E liat op 6 (Czech Po/Balohlevek) 20:05 Liturgica '96 — Bavarian Radio Choir, cond. Lorin Maazei; Angele Maria Blasi (sopreno), Thomes Quasthoff (baritone). Brehms; Ein Deutsches Requiem 23:00 Golden Generetion — Nethan Brand, plano. Debussy: Pralude no Brand, plano. Debussy: Prelude no 6 "Ondine": Bech: Fanlesia: Chopin: Bellade no 4 in F minor op 52; Scriabin: Poeme in F sharp minor op 32/1; Schumann: Nachtstücka op 23; Haydn: Variations in F minor

CINEMA

4:30, 7, 9:30 * Basquiat 7, 9:15 * That Thing You Do 4:45, 7, 9:15 * Jingle All the Way 4:45 AFULA RAY CHEN # 6424047 DaylighteLong Kiss eDaibolique 7, 9:30 ARAD

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Dragonheart 7:15, 9:45 * Glimmer
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* Kingpin 5, 7:30, 8:45
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@Escape From L.A.@Fied 5, 7:30, 10
G.G. ORI Daylight@Stealing Beauty
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Heaven's Prisoners 7, 10 RAVNEGEV 1-4 * 235278 Long Kiss
Goodnight@That Thing You
Do@Diabolique 5, 7:30, 8:45 * The
Mirror Has Two Faces 4:45, 7:15, 9:45
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CINEMA Long Kiss Goodnighte The Mirror Has Two Faces 7, 9:30 * Two Much 7, 9:30

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Truth About Cets and Dogs 5, 7:30, 10 KIRYAT BIALIK G.G. Gil. Sleepers@Gilmmer Man 7, 9:30 * Daylight@Dragonheart 4:45, 7, 9:30 * Kingpin 7, 9:30 * Two Much@Stealing Beauty 7, 9:30 KIRYAT SHMONA G.G. Gil. Long Ktss Goodnight@Eddle 4:30, 7, 9:30 * Daylight 4:30, 7, 9:30 *

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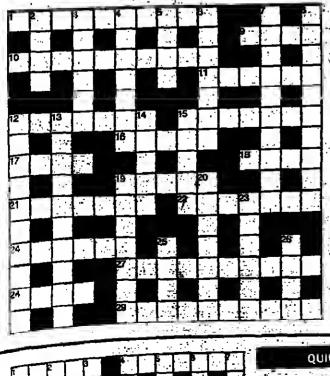
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5, 7:30 Phone reservations: Tel Aviv
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728878 All times are p.m. unless other-



QUICK CROSSWORD

ACROSS 1 Outer part of a loaf (5) 4 Stopping place (7) 8 Disrube (7) 9 Combine (5) 10 Tapestry (5) 11 River month (7) 13 Monster (4) 15 Horsey (6) 17 Part of speech (6) 20 Competent (4) 22 Trap (7) 24 Deadly (5) 26 Skeleton of head 27 Flowering shrub

ACROSS: 1 Bread, 4 Source, 9



Opposition furious at PM's withdrawal of IBA budget from **Knesset Finance C'ttee**

OPPOSITION MKs were up in arms vesterday over Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's decision to withdraw the Israel Broadcasting Authority budget from the Knesset Finance

Two Mereiz MKs, Amnon Rubinstein and Haim Oron, said they would petition the High Court of Justice against the deci-

Netanyahu withdrew the budget following a procedural appeal against it by two members of the IBA plenum, in accordance with a legal opinion from his min-istry's legal advisor. Shimon Stein. However, opposition MKs charged that the real reason for the withdrawal was due to religious MKs objections to The Cameri Quintel satire program

and comedian Gil Kopatch. The appeal, which was filed on January 5 by Likud activist Gil Samsonov and Hedva Spiegel, was based solely on the manner in which the plenum approved a NIS 20.8 million budget cut. According to the appeal, the cut was approved by a telephone sur**EVELYN GORDON**

vey of the members rather than at a formal meeting, and the appellants' requests for detailed material on the cut before the "vote" were denied. This is not the proper way for such a decision to be made, the two said, and they therefore demanded that the budget be returned to the IBA plenum for a proper discussion.

Stein, after reviewing the appeal, said the proper course was to accede to their request, withdraw the budget from the Finance Committee and return it to the IBA. Netanyahu therefore did so. Opposition MKs, however, were furious.

Avraham Shohat charged that only Finance Minister Dan Meridor had the right to withdraw a budget.

The state of Israel has a coalition which consists of [directorgeneral of the Prime Minister's Office] Avidgor Lieberman and the haredi parties," he said, adding that the decision left the IBA operating without a budget in violation of the law.

However, Finance Committee legal advisor Anna Schneider Netanyahu did have the right to withdraw the budget. since as the minister in charge of the IBA, it was his job to decide the Samsonov-Spiegel appeal. She had listed this as a possible option in a legal opinion submitted to the committee even Netanyahu's letter before arrived.

Oron charged that Netanyahu had simply seized on the appeal as an excuse to withdraw the budget, once it became clear to him that there was a majority in the committee for approving it.

"Everything is kosher when it comes to gagging people and making life difficult for the IBA," he said.

Ophir Pines (Labor) noted that this is the only 1997 budget which has still not been approved. He said he had filed a complaint with the Civil Service Commission against what he termed Lieberman's attempts to pressure coalition MKs into



Dancers Galina Panov and Bill Luther prepare for their performance of 'The Lovers' in Jerusalem

Winning cards & numbers In yesterday's daily Chance drawing, the winning cards were the king of spades, the ace of hearts. the queen of diamonds and the queen of clubs.

In last night's weekly Lotto drawing, the winning numbers were 3, 6, 21, 29, 31 and 42 and the additional number was 8.

Supreme Court justice refuses to act against 'The Cameri Quintet' TV show **EVELYN GORDON**

SUPREME Court Justice Theodor Or refused to issue an interim injunction yesterday against the screening of The Cameri Quintet on Channel 1.

Or was ruling on a request filed by Gabi Abutbul, a Shas representative on the Israel Broadcasting Authority's plenum. Abutbul had asked the court to either prohibit the broadcasts entirely or "moderate their crudity," until the plenum holds a discussion on the program in two weeks.

In his decision, Or wrote that even if parts of the program passed the bounds of good taste in the eyes of part of the public, this did not justify such a "far-reaching infringement on freedom of expression" as an injunction. This is especially so given the fact that the upcoming programs, like previous ones, will be scrutized by various IBA officials, and that the IBA

WOMAN OF VALOUR

plenum is to discuss the matter in another two weeks, he said. Afterwards, Abutbul said he still had high

hopes for the plenum discussion. "I am certain there will be a majority (in the plenum] for moderating all these crude out-bursts," said Abutbul, "There are things that are not appropriate for a public broadcast." The petition argued that the program frequently trampled on religious sensibilities, in violation of the Broadcasting Authority Law. This law states that programs offensive to large seg-

ments of the public cannot be aired.

The petition also charged that IBA directorgeneral Mordechai Kirschenbaum had promised the plenum in September to personally view each Cameri Quintet program beforehand and moderate it where necessary, but had

7 arrested in

Acre drug raid

ed during a police raid early yes-

terday morning. The operation, in

which around 50 policemen and

detectives took part, followed

months of work and evidence-

gathering by an undercover agent.

Those arrested are suspected of

selling drugs to the undercover

agent. The suspects were brought

before the Acre Magistrate's Court

yesterday and remanded pending

further inquiries. David Rudge

61 income tax workers

charged with misusing data

DISCIPLINARY charges have

been filed against 61 income tax

employees in the last three years

for making illegal use of data in

the Income Tax Commission's

computers, Treasury representa-

tives told the Knesset State

Control Committee yesterday.

This is our of 131 employees

investigated on suspicion of

Evelyn Gordon

not be held over from previous week draws, Jerusalem Post employees, their

families and distribution agents are exempt from participating.

Hammer holds up TV show on homosexuality

EDUCATION Minister Zevulun Hammer has beld up the broadcast of a program on homosexuality prepared for Educational is world view, the minister's media adviser told the Knesset Status of Women Committee yesterday. The committee convened to discuss the SEVEN suspected drug dealers from Acre's Old City were arrestminister's legal authority to interfere with the hroadcasting

of a specific program. The program was scheduled to have been aired on October 10. 1996, as part of a weekly series for youngsters entitled Open Cards. In the series, adolescents and young adults speak frankly to each other about their concerns, including sex, alcohol and drug abuse, and becoming religiously observant. The minister postponed the program to November 21, but on November 20 announced he was postponing it again so he could examine

Media adviser Ephraim Lapid argued that Educational TV. a state communications channel, is under the minister's jurisdiction. He also presented Hammer's reasons for delaying

the broadcast. One reason was that showing a homosexual family conveys a message that is not part of the general consensus and should

not be presented in an educational context, Lapid said. Hammer also believes he must reconsider a program that is so emotionally laden and is about a subject with which part of society feels uncomfortable, Lapid continued.

The media adviser assured the comminee that Hammer's decision to bold up the program was not political, but derived from his personal world view. Lapid could not tell the committee when the minister would conclude his examination of the

orogram. Educational TV head Ahnva Feinmesser told the committee she and other professionals had vetted the program for broadcast prior to Hammer's decision.

Aharon Pollak, a Tel Aviv lawyer who represents the Israel Bar Association in matters of education, said the minister had overstepped his jurisdiction. Hammer's responsibility for Educational TV pertains to administrative matters only, and it is illegal for him to substitute his own judgment for the judgment of professionals in the ministry, except in the most

extreme circumstances, he said. Psychologist Jerry Levinson,

who for three years ran a counseling program for homosexpal and lesbian youngsters, spoke about the harm done to young mation in the program from them. "I've had hundreds of calls and letters from youngsters about their fears and the atmosphere of persecution, exacerbated by pronouncements by public figures like the president," he said. "Correct information is

crucial for them." He cited a recent Canadian study which found that homosexuals and lesbians account for 70 percent of suicide attempts

among young people.

Hava Bar-On, who prepared a booklet on homosexuality for the Education Ministry to guide teachers and counselors in dealing with the subject, said the educators' goal was to provide information and counteract myths, and in particular to help youngsters in distress.

MK Yael Dayan, who chaired the meeting, asked Lapid to inform the committee when the minister's examination of the program would begin, when it would be completed, and what it will include. She also recommended that the minister set a new date for airing the program. and keep to it.

drought yet -

HYDROLOGICAL experts are to meet next Sunday to formulate plans to manage the country's dwindling water resources in the coming year in view of what looks like a winter drought. The meeting had been schedaled to take place last month, but was twice deferred because of

the dearth of rainfall so far this The experts will make recommendations to the water commissioner and National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon, who are primarily responsible for deciding whether or not to declare a drought situa-

The decision itself is likely to be deferred for a few more weeks in the hope that the rains will still come and compensate for the dearth of precipitation to

Rainfall so far has been well below average for this time of year to the detriment of farmers, who already have lost millions of shekels worth of field crops because seeds have dried up in

the soil.

Lake Kinneret is also showing signs of the unofficial drought, with the level of water continuing to drop instead of rising as it would in a normal winter.

Mekorot officials said the water level is 70 centimeters below that which it stood at this time last year and only 1.40 meters from the "red line."

The red line is the point below which experts have decreed the level of water cannot drop because it would cause irreparable damage to the lake's ecosys-

tem and water quality.

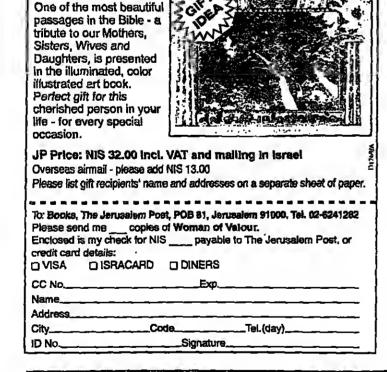
Mekoror officials said that in the event of insufficient rain this winter, pumping from Lake Kinneret into the National Water Carrier would have to be greatly reduced and other sources used instead.

This would mean increasing pumping from the country's two main underground reservoirs. Yarkon Taninim and the coastal aquifer - both of which are still

relatively replete.

According to the officials there would be sufficient reserves from these sources to meet the country's water requirements in the coming year. The problem, however, would arise in subsequent years if the underground reservoirs become depleted.

The Agriculture Ministry is already recommending measures to reduce water consumption, including the use of decorative plants which require little watering and efficient systems for itrigating public parks and private gardens. There are also suggestions for campaigns to make the public more aware of the need to CONSCIVE WATER



numenications said all the callers supported Unerry

